Aids to The Study of
DAVID COPPERFIELD

(CHARLES DICKENS)

KRISHNA BROTHERS
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David Copperfield.

Introduction.

The present book is an abridged and simplified edition of the original work. The students are advised to read the following brief account of the author's life and works before they touch the novel itself.

Charles Dickens, the most popular and perhaps the greatest of English novelists, was born on Feb 7, 1812 at Portsmouth. His father, John Dickens, was a clerk in a Navy Pay Office and all through his life a man of wavering and unstable status—partly by his misfortunes and partly by his faults. In 1814 the household moved for a short time to London and then for a longer time to Chatham. Here he had leisure to learn a little from books—a random heap of old novels like Roderick Random, Robinhood Crusoe, Tom Jones and the Vicar of Wakefield.

When he was nine years old the family once more moved over to London. Here John Dickens fell heavily into debt. For sometime he continued changing his private address, but at last landed himself in the Debtors Prison of the Marshalsea. His wife, the mother of eight children of whom Charles was the second, encamped desolately in Camden Town. After helping his mother in every sort of menial occupation Dickens was thrown forth to earn his own living by tying and labelling pots of blacking in a blacking warehouse at old Hungerford Stairs. This piece of his childhood was the darkert period of his life. He shared in the improvement of the

family condition by working as a clerk to a Mr. Blackmore and a Grays Inn Solicitor. During this period he perfected himself in shorthand. Afterwards he became a newspaper reporter and ultimately a parliamentary reporter.

Charles Dickens published very little before he reached his twenty second year. From December 1833 he began to contribute 'descriptive fanciful' articles to various papers and magazines and some of them were published in a volume entitled 'Sketches by Boz'. In 1836 Dickens married and a year later he published his 'Pickwick Papers', the novel which brought his fame. His 'Oliver Twist' appeared in 1838, 'Nicholas Nickleby' in 1839, and 'Barnby Rudge' in 1841. In 1842, he went on his first American tour and after his return published several books—American Notes, 1842; Martin Chuzzleust, 1843, David Copperfield, 1849; Black House, 1852: Hard times 1854; Little Dorrit, 1854, Tale of Two Cities, 1859; Great Expectations, 1861; and his last work Edwin Drood remained unfinished. Dickens died in the year 1870. His books were most widely read in the Victorian Age and he was very prosperoues so far money was concerned.

Dickens was thirty seven years of age when he wrote his 'David Copperifield.' In a broad sense it is something of a chronicle, but the book sparkling with drama, humour and pathos has in it some of the finest and the very best of Dickens. Dickens himself had a particular affection for this book and he once wrote "Of all my books I like this best. It will be easily believed that I am a fond parent to every child of my fancy, and that no one can ever love that family as I love them; But, like many fond parents, I have in my heart of hearts a

favoruite child and his name is David Copperffeld.' Perhaps the reason for this warm affection is that to a great measure David Copperfield is autobiographical.

Summary
CHAPTER I

David Copperfield was born at Blunderstone in Suffolk, at exactly at twelve o'clock at night, on an eventful Friday. He was a posthumous child, his father having died some six moths before his arrival.

At dusk on that particular Friday Mrs. Copperfield was sitting by the fire. Poor health and low in spirits she was thinking about her own unhappy position when happening to lift her eyes to the window she saw a strange lady coming up the garden. She was Miss Trotwood or Miss Betsey, an aunt of her husband and was a woman very remarkable for her eccentricity. As soon as she entered the house her first question was whether she was Mrs. Copperfield and on being answered in the affirmative she introduced herself as Miss. Trotwood, and told her that she, in all probability would have heard of her from her late husband.

After a little chit-chat Aunt Betsey thought that a cup of tea would revive her fallen spirits, and calling Peggotty, the servant girl, she ordered a cup of tea with all the authority of a mistress of the house. When Peggotty arrived with the tea and at a glance at her mistress saw that she was really ill, immediately despatched her nephew to fetch a nurse and a doctor.

The doctor and nurse arrived and went upstairs. After some time the doctor came down, congratulated Miss Trotwood, told her that a boy was born and the young mother was happy.

CHAPTER II

The first objects impressed distinctly on the mind of David Copperfield in his infancy were his pretty mother with her youthful shape and red-faced Peggotty with no shape at all.

One night, when his mother was out, an idea suddenly got hold of him. He asked Peggotty whether she was not beautiful woman and whether she was married. He got the reply that she was neither handsome nor married. At that moment Mrs. Copperfield returned and was accompanied by a gentleman. Before the gentleman departed he offered to shake hand with the boy but David extended him only his left, he was jealous of the gentleman who touched his mother as he touched him.

Some two months after Pegotty one day asked David whether he would like to go with her to her brother's place at Yarmouth. She gave such a gay picture of the delights of the place that he became anxious to go himself. His only hesitation was about his mother, whether she could manage without them for a fortnight. Peggotty told him that his mother would not mind it since she was going to stay a fortnight with her neighbour Mrs. Gayper. This reassured the boy and he anxiously awaited the day when they were to go Yarmouth.. At last the day arrived but David Copperfield little suspected that he was leaving his happy home for ever.

CHAPTER III

After a long and tedious journey they reached Yarmouth. Here he got to know her brother Daniel Peggotty, her nephew Ham, Sister little Emily and Mrs. Gummidge. These people lived in a large boat house.

All of them were very kind to him and little Emily inparticular became his friend. They walked together along the sea-shore picking up shells and pebbles and began to love each other earnestly. After a fortnight Peggotty and David returned to Blunderstone.

As soon as they reached home instead of his mother, they were received by a strange servant. Peggotty told him that he had a new Pa, and that he should go and see him and his mama. With Peggotty leading him they entered the parlour where his mother was sitting with Mr. Murdstone. David shook hands with Mr. Murdstone and after a moment went to his mother who kissed him and patted him on his back. All the while Mr. Murdstone was watching them. David who knew this and found it irksome turned to the window and looked out; the whole world had become heavy and desolate to the little boy.

CHAPTER IV

Mr. Murdstone, David's step father proved to be a very cruel man. He murdered the maternal affections of Mrs. Copperfield by his hard doctrine of 'firmness'. The spirit of his timid wife was wholly crushed when she was again and again warned not to show her natural love and kindness to David. Once he warned him to be careful and not to be obstinate for if he did so he would beat him as he did his horses and dogs when they turned stubborn.

For six months David Copperfield learnt his lessons at home. During this time there had been talks of sending him to a boarding school but nothing had been decided upon. But the lessons due to the arrival of

his new 'Pa' was a misery. The result was that with every day he became more and more dull, unforgiving and obstinate. One day on entering the parlour he found the elders discussing among themselves the efficacy of corporal punishment. Mr. Murdstone was there binding something at the bottom of a cane. Soon the lessons began. Mr. Murdstone warned David that day he should be particularly careful in his lessons and inorder to impress upon him he gave the cane a poise. This scattered entirely the poor boys wits. He forgot the words of the lessons not only in lines but inpages.

When the lessons had come to a close David was marched upstairs to his room with great solemnity. On reaching the room Mr. Murdstone caught David's head and administered on him unmercifully the cane several times. The boy felt sore and his fighting spirit was up : he caught the hand with which Mr. Murdstone held his mouth and bit it through. This infuriated Mr. Murdstone and he beat him as if he would have been beaten him to death and left the boy on the floor, locked the door and went away.

Five days David Copperfield led this life of imprisonment. On the last day Peggotty informed him that they had decided to send him to a boarding school, Salem House near Blackheath. From that day onwards there grew in the heart of David Copperfield a special feeling for Peggotty.

CHAPTER V

While going to Salem House—the school, he came to know Peggotty's suitor, the cartman Mr. Barkis. He saked David to deliver his message to Peggotty—'Barkis is Willing'.

Salem House was a forlon dreary looking building. Now it was vacation time. David looked into the school-house which was as dreary as everything else about the place. At the upper end of the room on a desk he came across a pasteboard placard with the words written 'Take care of him; He bites'. Afterwards he was told that that placard was meant for him, and was to be tied on his back like a knapsack.

The placard on his back was a constant humiliation to young Copperfield. He always felt that some one would be reading it. He dreaded the reopening of the school and the arrival of the boys.

CHAPTER VI.

A few days later Copperfield heard the news that the head master, Mr. Creakle, had arrived and the same evening he was marshalled before him. Mr. Creakle told him that he was a determined character, and that when he said a thing he expected it to be done. Next morning Mr. Sharp, a senior master in the school, arrived and then Tommy Traddles, the first of the boys to arrive. This was a fortunate circumstance for as soon as the other boys arrived Tommy Traddles showed them the placard saying 'Here is a game'.

When David went upstairs to bed that night he found the whole seven shilling's worth of cakes, biscuits and fruits spread on the counterpane. He was a little nervous and requested Steerforth, a senior, student of the school, to preside and to do honour to the feast. When the meal was over they discussed the masters of the houses, especially the head master, who knew nothing except to lay about him and slash the boys without mercy.

The regular work of the school began the next day. There was a hushed silence as soon as Mr. Creakle entered the class. David on the very first day got more than his due share of cuts, the headmaster had particularly noted him since it had been reported to him that he was famous for biting.

Poor traddles was caned everyday. He laid his head on the desk and cheered up somehow drawing skeletons all over his exercise book. Steerforth had considerable influence on Mr. Creakle. He protected David at school and won his everlasting admiration.

After all the first term finished easily and David returned home.

CHAPTER VII.

David arrived at his house. As soon as his mother saw him she cried out in joy and kissed him. Soon Peggotty came running down from the kitchen and was mad over the two children for a full quarter of an hour. At about 10 O'clock Mr. and Miss Murdstone arrived, and before they entered the house David kiss· his mother and with his candle retired for the night.

It was with a beating heart that David entered the parlour the next day. Mr. Murdstone stood by the fire David begged to be forgiven for his past offences. He replied that he was glad to find that he was sorry. Miss Murdstone looked a littie depressed when she heard that the boy had one full month's vacation. But this vanished as the holiday came its close and the day of David's departure arrived. David was not sorry to go. He kissed her mother and her baby and entered the carrier's cart which was to take him to Yarmouth.

CHAPTER VIII.

David did not remember much that happened in the school during his 'second half'. Slowly months slipped by and with it came March and his birthday.

It was a memorable birthday. Mr. Creakle sat at breakfast in the parlour and Mrs. Creakle sat by his side with an open letter in her hand. She called David and told him that she had just then received a letter. His mother was ill-dangerously ill. David now knew all. His mother was dead. He cried bitterly as if his little heart would burst till he could cry no more.

The next moring David reached home. Peggotty in her own way told him all that had happened.

CHAPTER IX.

Immediately after the funeral was over Miss Murdstone served on Peggotty a month's notice. The Murdstones were as severe and cold towards him as before. On one occasion David gathered enough courage to ask Miss Murdstone when he was going back to school, but was told that he was not going back at all.

Peggotty's month had come to an end and she took David with her to Yarmouth. On the day of departure Barkis arrived with his cart and they reached Yarmouth where Barkis married Peggotty.

After spending a happy time on the sea-side, David returned home. He was treated very indifferently which made him miserable. It was one day during this period hat Mr. Quinon, the manager of the Murdstone and Grinby warehouse arrived. The firm did trade in wine, and it was suggested that David should work in the firm

as a day-labourer and provide himself for his eating and drinking while his lodging and clothing would be paid for by Mr. Murdstone. David knew very well that it was only a plan to get rid of him. He was not even given time and opportunity to think for himself and the next morning he was hurried away to London with Mr. Quinon.

CHAPTER X.

The firm Murdstone and Grinby entertained David at a little labouring hand. His duty consisted of examining bottles, rinsing and washing them, fitting corks upon them, and labelling and packing up the finished bottles in casks. It was rather a sore work for a boy of his age and he shed bitter tears as he bent over his work.

David was introduced to Mr. Micawber who booked orders for the firm on commission business and David was to lodge with him. The financial condition of the Micawber family was indeed miserable. At all times the house was besieged by creditors. Things were equally difficult for the young boy. With the meagre income he had to keep himself going for one full week.

Soon the difficulties of the Micawbers came to a crisis. Mr Micawber was arrested one morning and carried to the King's Bench Prison. On the first sunday, David visited Micawber in the prison. He told him that one secret of happiness in life was living within one's means and he wanted him to learn a lesson from his sad fate.

CHAPTER XI

In due time Mr. Micawber was discharged from the prison and he left for the country with his wife. David

now felt utterly frindless. He determined that life at warehouse was unendurable and resolved to run away. The only person to whom he could go was his aunt Mrs. Betsey and he decided to try his luck there. For this purpose he took a loan of half a guine a from Peggotty.

As his money and luggage was robbed by the cart man, he started on foot for Dover. Therefore the journey was full of dangers and difficulties.

As he reached the cottage Miss Betsey Trotwood at first could not recognise him. But after hearing the past history from him she atonce recognised him.

CHAPTER XII.

Mr. Dick was the fiiend and adviser cf Trotwood. Mr. Murdstone, the step father of David, was informed and he came the next day. Miss Trotwood, Mr. Dick, Mr. Murdstone and Miss Murdstone sat together and wanted to decide the future of the boy. Mr. Murdstone said that if the boy was ready to go with him he would take him back unconditionally and if he refused his door would be shut upon him in future. Now the matter was left to David to decide and he requested his aunt not to send away. Now Mr. Dick's opinion was asked for. On his advice, the boy was kept at Dover. His aunt also decided to call him Trotwood Copperfield in the future.

CHAPTER XIII.

David's aunt did not forget his education and at the earliest opportunity took him to Canterbury to fix up a good school for him. On reaching Canterbury they first went to the house of Mr. Wickfield, a lawyer who generally managed the affairs of Miss Trotwood. There

they met Mr. Uriah Heep. After some discussion on the subject, the lawyer and Miss Trotwood went out and returned after a pretty long absence. They had succeeded in finding out a very good school for David but Miss Trotwood was not quite satisfied with the boarding houses that she had visited.

Mr. Wickfled suggested that Trotwood Copperfield could stay with him and the offer was accepted. Now Mr. Wickfield introduced them to his little daughter, Agnes. After this Miss Trotwood left for Dover leaving her nephew behind and requesting Mr. Wickfield to arrange everything for him.

CHAPTER XIV

Next morning Trotwood Copperfleld was admitted into a school run by one Dr. strong. He had forgotten what he had learnt at the 'Salem House' and hence was admitted in the lowest class in the school. He was very awkward in all the games the boys played at the school and extremely backward in his studies. At home, little Agnes asked him how he had fared that day and he replied that he had felt rather strange at firt, but he liked the school very much indeed.

As days advanced Trotwood Copperfield felt himself less strange at school. In less than a fortnight he was completely at his ease and in course of time he made great progress both in games and also studies. The school of Dr. strong was a splendid one and quite unlike 'Salem House' in every respect.

CHAPTER XV

All the while David had been keeping in touch with Peggotty through letters. From her he came to

know that the dear old place at Blunderstone had been altogether abandoned by the Murdstones, either to be let or sold.

Once on Uriah Heep's invitation David went to tea at his house. There, accidentally, Mr. Micawber also came. Mr. Micawber was in a great financial difficulty as ever before and it was the greatest satisfaction to him to pour into the bosom of his young friend all his griefs.

CHAPTER XVI

A few years had slipped by Copperfield had almost finished his studies at Dr. Strong's school. He was sorry to go but his brightest anticipations as regards the future made his regrets at leaving the school and his constant companion little Agnes, less keen.

All the while his aunt had been asking him what he would like to be, what vocation he would like to take up. But he was unable to decide anything for himself. Therefore it was suggested by the great-aunt that he should take a holiday, go to London and visit the familiar scenes of his boyhood and spend a few days with Peggotty.

David first went to Canterbury and with deep regret took leave of Agnes and Mr. Wickfield. He felt the sepeıation from Agnes very much, she has always been his right hand. Early in the morning David left his kind friends, proceeded to London and spent a few days there. From there he went to Yarmouth.

CHAPTER XVII

Arriving at the house of his old nurse Peggotty, he knocked at the door. First she was not able to recog-

nise him; with a cold stare, and without the least smile return at the youngman who smiled at her, she replied that Mr. Barkis was at home. But when she did, she was completely overwhelmed and here was a good deal of embracings, laughing and crying. Barkis, her husband, at that time was bed-ridden with rheumatism Copperfield greeted him in his room upstairs. He was very much pleased at meeting, the boy he had taken several times on the Blunderstone Road, and received him with great enthusiam aud warmth.

Copperfield spent a happy fortnight at Peggotty's place. He never stayed out very much, especially at nights, since he felt that he would be inconveniencing Peggotty who had to attend on her husband.

CHAPTER XVIII

One day he received a letter from his aunt asking him whether he had a mind to be a proctor at Doctor's Commons. She had already arrived in . London. David prepared to start for London and during the journey he thought about the problem a good deal and decided to become a proctor. On arriving in London his aunt received him with great joy and he gave his consent for the profession.

The next morning they went to the chambers of Spenlow and Jorkins, solicitors. Mr. Copperfield was introduced to Mr. Spenlow. Copperfield told him that he liked the profession but was not sure of it and that he should be given an opportunity of trying it by keeping him on probation for a month. Mr. Spenlow had no objection to that arrangement.

After all the transactions had been concluded the aunt and the nephew went to Bukingham street in the Adelphi and engaged for a month. a set of chambers let out by one Mrs. Crupp.

CHAPTER XIX

One day David received a note from Agnes that she had come down to London and was staying with his fathers agent Mr. Waterbrook. She desired to meet him the same day at any time appointed by him. In reply he sent the note that he would meet her at 4 O'clock.

He met Agnes in the sitting room, quietly knitting and he was so moved at the sight of her that he actually shed tears of joy. Agnes also had her trouble. Of late she had noted that Uriah Heep exercised a good deal of influence over her father and forced upon him to make himself as his partner. Now Uriah Heep was in London and perhaps on disagreeable business. But Agnes besought David to be calm and even friendly with Uriah Heep. Later Uriah Heep also told him that he had entered into partnership of Mr. Wickfield. Uriah went to David's place and requested him not to set Agnes against him unknowingly.

CHAPTER XX

Days and weeks slipped by, and David was articled to Messrs. Spenlow and Jorkins. Two months after he was invited by Mr. Spenlow to his house in Norwood and was introduced to his daughter Dora. All was over in a moment. David was a captive and a slave. He loved Dora to distraction.

Mrs. Crupp was an observant woman, for when his attachment to Dora was but a few weeks old, she found it out. She advised him not to feel depressed.

CHAPTER XXI

One day David Copperfleld went to see his old school friend, Traddles who was a lawyer. Mr. and Mrs. Micawber were also living in the same building in which Traddles was boarding and also happened to meet them their. The Micawbers invited him at dinner but David Copperfield knowing their poor financial position put some excuses and returned home.

The same day his another old friend Steerforth visited David's place and informed him that he had been to Yarmouth and there was a message for him from Peggotty that Barkis was seriously ill. This news disturbed David and he decided to go to Yarmouth.

CHAPTER XXII

Peggotty welcomed David and thanked him and blessed him for being such a comfort to her in her distress. She told him that Barkis had always liked him and often talked of him before he became unconscious.

Barkis was in a kind of stupor, but just before his death he recovered from it, recognised Copperfield and muttered with pleasant smile 'Barkis is willing'. Soon after this, he died.

CHAPTER XXIII

Mr. Barkis's will was found in the box at the

bottom of an old leather bag. The man had been hoarding up all these years and his savings in money amounted to nearly three thousand pounds. Of this he left the interest on one thousand to Mr. Peggotty for life; and after his death the principal was to be divided equally among Peggotty, Emily and David.

Later Ham informed that Emily had run away with Steerforth and had left a letter for them. This gave an another great shock to Mr. Peggotty and to David Copperfield.

CHAPTER XXIV

The next morning before breakfast, David found Mr. Peggotty, his sister, and Ham on the beach, close down by the sea. It was easy to see that they had no sleep, they looked so worn. Mr. Peggotty told that he was going to seek his Emily. Mr. Peggotty set out on his travels that very night.

CHAPTER XXV

Three days after David's return home, he learnt that Dora was on a visit to her friend Miss Mills, who lived with her father in London. He, therefore, determined to see Dora, and declare his love, and know his fate.

At Miss Mills' house he met Dora and made his proposal. But Dora insisted that they were never to get married without her father's consent.

One afternoon David was surprised to find his aunt and Mr. Dick at his place. His aunt warmly embraced the young nephew and Mr. Dick cordially shook hands

with him. After finishing her tea with slow deliberation, Miss Trotwood told her tale. She was completely ruined. Except her cottage and five belongings that she had with her in the room everything else was gone. The only thing to be done now was to live her misfortune down instead of allowing it to overwhelm her and cow her.

CHAPTER XXVI.

Copperfield was shocked at the unexpected news. He tried whether he could get back his premium from Mr. Spenlow; but he could not succeed. In the way he met Agnes who was on a visit to his aunt. She had accompanied her father and Uriah when they came to town on some business transaitions. Uriah was now her father's partner in his business.

Miss Trotwood welcomed Agnes with great warmth. She had written to her because she wanted her advice on her present position. David Copperfield said that the only thing to be done in the circumstances was for him to do something. He had a good deal of time hanging heavily on his hands, and this he could put to good advantage. When she heared this wise decision, Agnes said that if he had any liking for a secretarial job there was one going, for she had heard Dr. Strong asking her father whether he could recommend him a good secretary. Copperfield was delighted with the suggestion and immediately wrote to the Doctor.

CHAPTER XXVII.

Two days later, David received two letters, one from Mr. Micawber and one from Dr. Strong. Mr. Micawber informed him that he had obtained employment with

Uriah Heep as his confidential secretary. The Doctor, in a very kind letter, assured him that nothing could be more agreeable to him than to have his services as secretary. But the Doctor could afford to pay him only a small salary. So he made up his mind to consult Traddles on the subject.

Traddles told him that short-hand writting was necessary and was very difficult to master. But he determined to master it. He left Traddles and went straight to Miss. Mills' house to call upon Dora. He told her the story of his misfortunes.

On one Saturday morning, when he went as usual to the Commons, he learnt that Mr. Spenlow had died. This news appeared a surprise to him and gave a great shock. He was told that Dora had no other relations than two aunts with whom she went soon after the funeral.

CHAPTER XXVIII

One day, while returning from Dover. David dropped down at Canterbury. Here he found Mr. Micawber at Mr. Wickfield's House. David noticed a change in him and carried with him the impression that Mr. Micawber was a little uneasy and that his new duties were a misfit to him.

David Copperfield went upstairs and was greeted with the utmost pleasure by Agnes. About his marraige with Dora, Agnes advised him to write to her aunts.

When dinner was over Uriah proposed and drank to the health of the visitor, Mr. Copperfield. After the first toast was drunk he suggested that they should drink to the health of Agnes Wickfield whom he consi-

dered the divinest of her sex. At this Wickfield was mad for the moment. Copperfield by degrees succeeded in pacifying him. Mr. Wickfield turned to Uriah and told that because of him, he had step by step abandoned his name and reputation, peace and quiet, house and home. While the things were at the climax, Agnes entered the room and led her father out of the room.

The next morning, Copperfield prepared to leave for London. Just before the coach started Uriah Heep appeared and told him that he had made it up with Mr. Wickfield and that now things were quite smooth between them. He had been foolish to attempt to pluck the pear before it was ripe.

CHAPTER XXIX

After his return to London, David wrote to Dora's aunts. In their reply they expressed their willingness to permit his visits, but upon certain conditions. His visits were to be limited to tea on Saturdays and dinner on Sundays. David accepted the conditions and began to make visits. Nearly after a year they were allowed to go out for walking even.

Time had flitted by and Copperfield was now twenty one years old. He had by this time conquered the mysteries of short hand and had become a parliamentary reporter of a newspaper. By this time he had also become something of an author. To begin with he had written few articles in certain magazines and these were a fairly good success and was paid regularly for his articles. On the whole he found himself extremely well off.

David had removed from London to a pleasant little

cottage in Highgate. This meant his marriage with Dora. Peggotty also came to the cottage and preparations for marriage were at their height. Traddles obtained the marriage licence and David and Dora were married.

CHAPTER XXX.

When the honeymoon was over, David felt very strange. It seemed such an extraordinary thing to have Dora always at home. They had a servant, Marry Ann. She was sober and honest but had occasional fits. She proved to be the cause of the first quarrel between the husband and the wife as she had no idea of time.

David tried to adopt Dora to himself and found it impossible. It now remained for him to adopt himself to Dora and this he resolved to do. This made his second year of marriage much happier than his first. But Dora's health began to fail and she had to spend much of her time lying on the sofa in the drawing-room downstairs.

CHAPTER XXXI

One day Mr. Peggotty came to David's place. Peggotty told him to accompany him to Golden Square. In the way David learnt from Mr. Peggotty that he had discovered Steerforth and his neice lodging in London. After reaching the destination, they ascended the staircase to the top story, and stood before a closed door. Mr. Peggotty turned the handle and went in. As soon as his neice who was sitting in the room saw her uncle cried with fear and became unconscious. Mr. Peggotty took her in his arms, to his lodging.

Next day, early in the morning Mr. Peggotty went

to David's Cottage and met his aunt. He narrated the whole story to David's aunt. Mr. Peggotty had determined now to go to Australia and settle there with his neice and Mrs. Gummidge.

CHAPTER XXXII

About two weeks later, David Copperfield received a letter from Mr. Micawber. He wanted to meet his aunt, Traddles and David at an hotel in Canterbury for exposing Uriah Heep. Considering the matter important they went to meet him.

Mr. Micawber took them to Mr. Wickfield's house where Uria Heep was also present. Their visit astonished Uriah Heep very much. Mr. Micawber produced a large piece of paper and read it aloud. The statement revealed that Uriah Heep had for many years past, taken advantage of the weakness of Mr. Wickfield. He had made Mr. Wickfield believe that the firm was bankrupt and to pay the debts, he had persuaded him to draw out of the sum of £ 1200, entrusted to him by Miss Betsey Trotwood for investment. In fact, the firm never had been bankrupt and this sum had gone into the pocket of Uriah Heep.

Uriah Heep tried to snatch the piece of paper from Mr. Micawber's hand but could not succeed. Uriah was now told by Traddles to give back all that he had taken by criminal means. It looked at first as if Uriah might refuse but afterwards he gave back all the money.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

Before the sailing of the emigrant ship, David went to Yarmouth to see Peggotty. There had been a wind

all the day in the way. But as the night advanced, clouds spread over the sky, and it came to blow harder than ever. When the day broke, it blew harder and harder. He reached Ipswich very late and found a crowd of people in the market place, who had risen from their beds in the night, fearful of falling chimneys.

Next day, the storm was still raging, he was informed a ship-wreck. He went to the beach where numbers of people were standing and were watching the ship wreck. People were crying like anything when Ham prepared himself to save people on the deck. He had a rope round his body, and several of the best men holding the end of the rope firmly in their hands. He was almost near the wreck—when a vast mountain of water fell upon the luckness ship, and it was gone. Ham was drawn out of the sea. But he was dead.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

David was again with Dora in the cottage. Dora was ill. She expressed her desire to meet Agnes and requested David to write a letter to her. Agnes arrived there. Dora was seriously ill and every one believed that she wont survive.

Dora requested David to allow her to talk with Agnes in private. Agnes met her alone when she returned back to David, her face was full of pity, and of grief; and she was weeping. She told that Dora had died. Darkness came befoie David's eyes; and for a time all thiugs were blotted out of his remembiance.

CHAPTER XXXV.

Two days after Dora's funeral, David had to travel

to Gravesend to say farewell to the emigrants. He went to the docks with Peggotty.

Mr. Peggotty met them on deck and took them down below. There they were greeted by Mr. Micawber and found Mrs. Gummidge.

Dora's death had made David restless. A year had passed. He resolved to settle in a valley in Switzerland. There he worked early and late, patiently and hard. He wrote a story which gave him a great reputation. After some rest and change, he began another novel. It was not half written, when he thought of returning home. He returned home after three years.

CHAPTER XXXVI

David had been at Dover for more than two months. He used to see Agnes frequently. One day when he was to leave for Canterbury to meet Agnes, his aunt told him that Agnes was going to be married. He had made up his mind to ask Agnes for the truth concerning this marriage. He found Agnes alone.

Agnes welcomed him with a calm smile and with the greatest friendliness and warmth, and David caught her in his arms. She was dear to him. With a diffident heart Copperfield confessed to her his love for her and Agnes weeping joyfully answered in a gentle whisper, "I loved you all my life."

They were married within a fortnight. It was a quiet wedding. The only guests present were Traddles, the Doctor and Mrs. Strong.

Meanings.

CHAPTER I.

Dared: Had the courage, हिम्मत की। **Terrifying:** Fearful डरावना। **Induced:** Prevailed on उकसाया। **Timid:** fearful डरपोक। **Stalking:** Striding with proud steps अकड़ कर चलना। **Frowned:** Looked gloomily त्योरी चढ़ाई। **Parlour:** Sitting room बैठक। **Faltered:** Stammered हकलाई। **Indignation:** Anger क्रोध। **Dawdle:** To idle विलम्ब करना। **Sobbing:** Sighing in a conclusive manner सिसकी। **Nodded:** Moved the head सिर हिलाया। **Stern:** Severe कठोर। **Bonnet:** Woman's head dress स्त्रियों की टोपी। **Feebly:** With weakness कमजोरी से। **Crooked:** Bent कुटिल।

CHAPTER II

Kennel: House for sheltering dogs कुत्तों के रखने का घर **Whishkers:** Hair growing on cheeks गलमुच्छा। **Propped:** To Sustain आश्रय देना। **Squeeze:** To compress दबाना। **Plump:** fat मोटा। **Hugging:** Embracing आलिंगन करना। **Alligators:** Reptiles of crocodile family घड़ियाल। **Patted:** Striked gently थपथपाना। **Remonstrated:** Made protest प्रतिवाद किया। **Treat:** A good entertainment अच्छा मनोरंजन।

CHAPTER III.

Shuffled: Moved with a dragging motion घिसकते हुये चला। **Rudder:** Appliance for steering a boat नाव की पतवार। **Apron:** A garment वस्त्र। **Ark:** A large boat बड़ी नाव। **Bacheldore:** Bachelor कुंवारा। **Destitute:** Devoid of निराश्रय। **Adored:** Worshipped अराधना की। **Fretful:** Peevish चिड़चिड़ा। **Contrairy:** Opposite विपरीत। **Distress:** Hardship मुसीबत। **Riddance:** Deliverance मुक्ति। **Drooping:** Falling in drops टपक टपक कर चूता हुआ।

CHAPTER IV

Wretched: Miserable हत भाग्य । **Wince:** To show uneasiness चौंकना । **Drowning:** Sinking डूबते हुए । **Tumble:** To fall suddenly एकाएक गिरना । **Fascination:** Alluring influence माया । **Sullen:** Obstinate हठी । **Stupefied:** Befooled बेवकूफ बनाया गया । **Consoled:** Soothed ढाढ़स दियागया । **Impersonating:** To personify भेष बदलना । **Flogged:** Lashed बेंत से मारा गया । **Earnestness:** Honesty ईमानदारी

CHAPTER V.

Jogged: Shook with a jerk झटके से हिलाया । **Gulp:** To gasp हाँफना । **Sweetheart:** Beloved प्रेमिका । **Forlorn:** Deserted अनाथ । **Knapsack:** Leather bag चमड़े का थैला ।

CHAPTER VI.

Hey: Expressive of joy आनन्द सूचक । **Flinching:** Shrinking विमुख होते हुए । **Slashing:** Severe तीक्ष्ण । **Reclining:** Resting सहारे से । **Premonition:** Forewarning पहिले से सूचना देने वाला । **Writhe:** To twist the body in pain पीड़ा से शरीर को ऐंठना । **Brute:** Cruel निर्दयी । **Beadle:** Servant of a company कम्पनी का नौकर । **Sneak:** Mean नीच । **Congregation:** A general assembly सभा । **Flutter:** To tremble काँपना । **Lobsters:** A kind of marine fish एक प्रकार काकेंकड़ा । **Swaggering:** Boasting शेखी मारते हुए । **Grinning:** Stupidly smiling मूर्खता से हँसना ।

CHAPTER VII.

Accustomed: Habituated आदत पड़ना । **Gruff:** Harsh निठुर । **Slouched:** Drooped झुका । **Wrung:** Distressed कष्ट दिया । **Shreds:** Broken pieces टुकड़े । **Chuckle:** To show signs of glee प्रसन्नता के चिह्न दिखलाना । **Retreated:** Returned लौट गया । **Monotonously:** Without interest बिना दिलचस्पी के ।

CHAPTER VIII

Hamper: To impede; रोकना । **Implored:** Entreated; प्रार्थना की । **Twilight:** Faint light before sunrise and after sunset; सन्धि प्रकाश ।

CHAPTER IX

Mustered: Collected; इकट्ठा किया । **Animation:** Enlivenment; जीव प्रदान । **Pet:** Favourite; प्रिय । **Impudence:** Insolence; निर्लज्जता । **Moaned:** Lamented; कराहया ।

CHAPTER X

Consequences: Results; नतीजे । **Flawed:** Imperfected; न्यूनता । **Rinse:** To wash out; जल से धोना । **Jaunty** Showy; दिखावटी । **Monocle:** A single eye-glass; एक ताल का चश्मा । **Apartment:** A room of a house; मकान का एक कमरा । **Ferocious:** Cruel निर्दयी ।

CHAPTER XI

Improvident: Unforseeing; अदूरदर्शिता । **Unbearable:** Intolerable; असहनीय । **Withered:** Faded; सूखा हुआ । **Wistfully:** Thoughtfully; चिन्ता से । **Tattered:** Ragged; फटा हुआ । **Plight:** Condition; दशा । **Formidable:** Able to be dreaded; भयंकर । **Florid:** Showy; दिखावटी । **Feebly:** With Weakness; दुर्बलता से । **Darted:** Pointed; तीव्र । **Incessant:** Regular; लगातार ।

CHAPTER XII

Squabbling: Quarreling; झगड़ा करना । **Infinite:** Limitless; सीमा रहित । **Parosol:** A small umbrella; छोटा छाता ।

CHAPTER XIII

Backgammon: A kind of a game; एक तरह का खेल। **Cadaverous**: Deadly pale; बिल्कुल पीला। **Lank**: Thin; दुबला।

CHAPTER XIV

Humility: Meekness; नम्रता। **Pirate**: Sea Robber; समुद्री लुटेरा।

CHAPTER XV

Sprawling: Irregular; टेढ़ा मेढ़ा। **Chin**: A front part of the lower jaw; ठुड्डी। **Pecuniary**: Financial; आर्थिक।

CHAPTER XVI

Portmanteau: Bag; बैग। **Sparrows**: A kind of Birds; एक तरह की चिड़ियायें। **Grasped**: Hold; पकड़ा। **Strolling**: Walking up and down; इधर से उधर घूमना।

CHBPTER XVII

Poked: Thrusted; भौंका। **Dismal**: Gloomy; उदासीन। **Latch**: A contrivance for for fastening a door or window; सिटकनी। **Gaiety**: Mirth आनन्द। **Quaint**: New; नये। **Boorish**: Rude in manners; असभ्य।

CHAPTER XVIII

Exceedingly: Very much; बहुत अधिक। **Way worn**: Wearied by journey; यात्रा से थका हुआ। **Linen**: Cloth made of flax; सन का बना हुआ वस्त्र।

CHAPTER XIX

Attachment: Affection; अनुराग । **Fawning:** Flattery; चाटु वचन । **Indignantly:** Angrily; कुपित होकर । **Hound:** A dog of chase; शिकारी कुत्ता । **Strangled:** Suffocated; गला घोंटना । **To disguise:** To keep secret; गुप्त रखना । **Stretched:** Spreaded; फैलाये । **Scraped:** Cleaned by rubbing; खुरच कर साफ किया । **Lank:** Thin; दुबला । **Despise:** Hate; घृणा । **Purged:** Became pure; शुद्ध होना ।

CHAPTER XX

Flung: Thrown; फेंक दिया । **Distraction:** Madness; पागलपन । **Abyss:** Depth गहराई । **Brink:** Border; किनारा । **Guitar:** A musical instrument; छतारा । **Dimpled:** A small hollowed chin; गड्ढेवाली ठुड्डी ।

CHAPTER XXI

Plodding: Laborious; परिश्रमी । **Repose:** Rest; विश्राम ।

CHAPTER XXII

Awe: Reverential fear; भय । **Muttering:** Murmuring; बड़बड़ करते हुए ।

CHAPTER XXIII

Oyster: A kind of shell fish; घोंघा । **Wail:** Lamentation; रुदन । **Villain:** A wicked person दुष्ट ।

CHAPTER XXIV

Yonder: Being at a distance; सामने का । **Moping:** Drowsing; औंघते हुए ।

CHAPTER XXV

Eloquence: Fluent speech वक्तृत्व शक्ति । **Exalted:** Raised to a height; ऊंचा किया हुआ । **Reverses:** Misfortunes; दुर्घटनायें ।

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CHAPTER XXVI

Belittle: To make small; छोटा करना । **Stern:** Strong; मजबूत । **Prospect:** Expectation; आशा ।

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CHAPTER XXVII

Rapturous; Ravishing; अति प्रसन्न । **Solemnly:** Gravely; गम्भीरता से । **Triumphant:** Full of joy; प्रसन्नता पूर्ण । **Heart-breaking:** Very difficult; बहुत कठिन । **Tortures:** Mental anguish; मानसिक वेदना ।

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CHAPTER XXVIII

Unceasing: Continuous; बन्द न होने वाली । **Embarrassments:** Difficulties; मुसीबतें । **Obsolete:** Old fashioned; पुरानी रीति का । **Enticed:** Attracted; आकर्षित किया । **Exulted:** Exceedingly rejoiced; अति प्रसन्न हुआ । **Sulky:** Sullen; उदास । **Croaking:** Grumbling; गुर्राते हुए । **Profuse:** Extravagant; अति । **Smacking:** Loudly kissing; सशब्द चुम्बन ।

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CHAPTER XXIX.

Strolled: Rambled इधर उधर घूमा । **Wardrobe:** Cupboard where clothes are kept वस्त्र रखने की अलमारी ।

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CHAPTER XXX.

Coax: To entice फुसलाना । **Salmon:** A kind of fis

एक तरह की मछली । Pathetic: Exciting pity कारुणिक। Resolved: Determined निश्चय किया ।

CHAPTER XXXI

Drab: A whore कुलटा । Tremulous: Trembling काँपते हुए । Scarcely: Hardly मुश्किल से । Emigrate: To leave the country स्वदेश त्याग करना ।

CHAPTER XXXII

Detestable: Abominable तिरस्कार करने योग्य । Hypocrite A pretender छली । Protruded: Thrusted froward आगे बढ़ाया । Dissipated: Vicious दुराचारी । Scum: Refuge मैल । Dotage: Excessive fondness अत्यन्त अनुराग Knuckles:Joint in the finger bone अंगुली का जोड़ । Blurted: Uttered abruptly बिना समझे बोला । Scowl: To frown भौंह चढ़ाना । Slunk Went in an ashamed manner लज्जित होकर जाना । Animation: Enlivenment प्रोत्साहन ।

CHAPTER XXXIII.

Flung: Thrown फेंक दिये गये । Staggering: Tottering लड़खड़ाते हुये । Strewn: Scattered बिखरे हुयें । Precipice: The steep face of a rock चट्टान की खड़ी दीवार । Rigging: Ropes of a ship जहाज के रस्से । Hauling: Pulling खेंच रहा ।

CHAPTER XXXIV.

Lingering: Slow in motion विलम्बी । Remorse: Regret पछतावा ।

CHAPTER XXXV.

Distractedly: Perplexingly व्यग्रता से । Wayward: Perverse स्वेच्छाचारी ।

CHAPTER XXXVI.

Intently: Purposefully मतलब से। **Hooves:** Horny parts of a beast's foot खुर।

Characters

Mr. Micawber

Mr. Micawber is the most important of all the characters in **David Copperfield.** He is introduced in the novel when David was experiencing the misery and degradation of the most wretched life in the warehouse. He is a stoutish middle-aged person with no hair on his head. His gentle air and imposing shirt collar and tassled walking-stick make him all the moie pompous and impressive. His amiable kindness and friendliness are illustrated at the very outset when he gracefully offers himself to show the nearest road to his house to David.

Mr. Micawber is, in fact, John Dickens,the father of Charles Dickens, appearing in disguise. The very fact that he is introduced at a moment of crisis in David's life, and is attributed the qualities of being pompous, financially slip-shod, irresponsible and yet eloquent and gentle, so much like his father, proves the proposition. The autobiographical significance of this creation is too evident though Mr. Micawber has been portrayed as a stranger brought in contact by chance. Behind this portrayal are hidden the darker shadows of Dicken's life.

Furthermore, he speaks with a burst of confidence and takes himself to be a talented man. To David he says 'My dear young friend, I am older than you; I am a man of experience and life, and difficulties. I have nothing to give you but advice." At one place he

remarks–"Emigration calls for capital and ability; ability, I think, I may say, I have, but capital I have not." He is always the most hopeful of men looking on to fortune and something turning up to improve his plight. Does he not say to Copperfield, 'the present is one of those moments and I have every reason to believe that something will, in fact, turn up very shortly ?" This is the only tragedy of his life as he could not work to any account for himself' and waited patiently to bring in debt and angry creditors only in its train.

The house of Mr. Micawber in Windsor Terrace is really Gower Street-Dickens's father's residence. The creditors force themselves in the passage demanding payment rebuking and abusing and Mr. Micawber would oscillate between despair and rebound. He would be transported with grief and mortification and "would go up to the length of threatening to cut his throat with a razor, but half an hour afterwards he would polish up his shoes with great pains and go out humming a tune with a greater air of gentility than ever" bringing to the front his, however, joyful and irresponsible side. He is wise but the wisdom he seldom applied to himself. To David he advised thus "Annual income twenty pounds annual expenditure nineteen six, results happiness, annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds ought and six, results misery."

Still more attractive side of his is his good and easy nature. He is a friend to everybody in times of need. He was so unhappy when he left for Plymouth, leaving David alone, to seek some job. He says 'Copperfield ! farewell ! Every happiness and prosperity. In case of anything turning up (of which I am rather con-

fident) I shall be extremely happy to improve your prospects, should it be in my power." Later on when he got employment as the secretary to Uriah Heap, he did inform David and afterwards helped him to recover the lost property of Miss Betsey, David's aunt.

It is not only with David that he has been so good and kind. For traddles he says to David "····that to have a lodger, with breeding and education of your friend Traddles, is a great comfort· ···I have now an immediate prospect of something turning up, which will enable me provide both for myself and for your friend Traddle's." At the same time he has neither been lazy nor incompetent. Traddles pays tribute to his industry and large heartedness by saying 'he is a most untiring man when he works for other people.'

To his wife he is a kind husband always greateful for her constant kind company and due share in his difficulties.

To find any severe faults mixed with traits of universal humanity in Mr. Micawber's character is given only to critics, who are no critics.

David Copperfield

David Copperfield is the hero of the novel. Through this immortal creation Charles Dickens conveys the painful experiences of his childhood and youth. The is the ideal child of his fancy as he says, "I have in my heart of hearts a favourite child. And his name is David Copperfield."

David is a posthumous childh-his father died before he was born. He has been miserable all through his life suffering intensely and interminably. It is only fo

a few days that he could experience the tenderness of reposing safely in his mother's lap. As soon as the darkly omnious step-father Mr.Murdstone and his inexorable sister appear, the child converts himself into an orphan. He can no more get the benefit of the loving caresses of his angelic mother and the pleasant soothing talks of the devoted Peggotty. He is deeply conscious of his unhappy boyhood and worst education that the Murdstones could manage for him. The mother drives into her grave very early leaving the child quite desolate in this horrible wide world, and the events that follow break his little heart. Now he sinks into the soul-wrenching agony of loneliness and neglect as he works in the rat-infested blackening warehouse for Murdstone and Grinby. A sense of rejection he feels-as he is deserted by the natural protector-his step father.

Good and sufficient education being denied to David, he feels crushed within his breast and loses all 'hope of growing up to be a learned and distinguished man'. The plea that he has a passionate desire for learning and education is supported by the facts that in his early miserable childhood he reads a collection of novels left by his father and rises to a head boy at Doctor Strong's. All this goes a long way to make him an author of great repute.

Copperfield cherishes a great affection for the faithful Peggotty. Frequently and in hours of need he pays visits to her, both before and after her marriage with Mr. Barkis. He has an everlasting feeling of comfort and relief—'a great weight taken off my mind' when he is in her company.

He has a soft and sympathetic heart. He has been

a friend to everybody in misery. How gracefully [he] offers money to Mrs. Micawber when they have no pr[o]vision to eat. He goes to sell their articles and pock[ets] up insults only in the name of friendship. He is t[he] first man to ask Peggotty if she would go and seek fo[r]tune elsewhere when she has been cruelly discharg[ed] from service after his mother's death.

He has a great affection and regard for his fathe[r's] aunt Miss Betsey, whom he considers his fairy godmoth[er] hiding a soft heart beneath a harsh exterior. He is dee[ply] grateful to her for bringing in the blessed peace a[nd] safety to him by sending away the hateful Murdston[es] forever. He does not desert the kind aunt when mi[s]fortune overtakes her.

At the same time he is no exception to the tremulo[us] silliness and ecstasy of youthful love. Thinking of h[is] sweet-heart Dora he is often lost in luminous dreams o[f] de ight. But later he realises that she is no ment[al] companion for him. "Her mind is already formed····" "There was always something wanting. It would ha[ve] been better for me if my wife could have helped m[e] more, and shared my many thoughts in which I ha[d] no partner." This want he fulfills by marrying Agn[es]. She has always been his 'helper and guide'. She is h[is] angle and a light has certainly shone on his way wh[en] he married her.

Uriah Heep

Uriah Heep, that 'heep of infamy', that 'wicke[d] detestable-hypocrite' is essentialy a villain. Traditional[ly] a novel must contain a villain and hence this, rather less artistic creation. He is ugly in appearance bo[th] inside and outside. He has a cadaverous face wi[th]

hardly any eye-brows and no eye-lashes. The symbolic twists and contortions of his body at once gave him a comic and frightening appearance.

The seed of villainy is sown in him when accidently David, in all his innocence, remarked that in near future he would be a partner in Mr. Wickfield's business. Henceforth Uriah chalked out and worked up his dangerous schemes professing humility and gratitude all the time. He could worm his way into the confidence of an experienced man of affairs and gradually got the upper hand of his weaknesses. Whenever he got an opportunity he talked about his humble state and the good that he was doing to Mr. Wickfield, who according to him was a worthy but unwise man. Under the pretence of improving his legal knowledge he studied law most deligently for the lowest purpose. He was completely successful in getting Mr. Wickfield slowly and steadily under his thumb. It was his deliberate step to make himself all in all in business matters and get acquainted with almost every thing. Cunning and watchful, he found out Mr. Wickfield's weaknesses and encouraged them and took advantage of them till the gentleman was afraid of him.

The mean, fawning fellow would not spare even Betsey Trotwood and consequently David. He would pay late visits to Copperfield apologising—while the whole scheme of robbing him both of money and his sweet-heart Agnes haunted him. The cunning grin on his face, his skeleton hand and bony constitution would make him all the more contemptuos. He loved Agnes and wanted her, knowing that she was very much attached to her father. He made him a puppet to act according to his own foul intentions.

But the good and brave is always to triumph ov treachery and cruelty. The skilful schemer was at la defeated in the denunciation scene. He was unmasked b Mr. Micawber whom he failed to judge in the light o his own rascality. He brought to light the baseness an deception, conspiracy and knavery of the detestab serpent. He unearthed his cruel plan to win that inno cent girl. Now it became obvious that it wa Uriah—the scheming hound and scoundrel who wa responsible for the abandonment of name and reputa tion, peace and quiet, house and home of Mr. Wickfiel In the end he received what he deserved.

Peggotty.

The devoted Peggotty with her cheeks and arms s hard and red and having no shape at all is one of the be of servant girls and the most faithful of friends. Sh is a sort of mother image to Peggotty presiding ov the kitchen and pantry and sewing clothes during lamp evenings.

She is much more than a mere servant in th Copperfield family. Living in close intimacy with the she has become almost a family member. Her advi would be sought in every important matter. She di approved of Mrs. Copperfield's love and engageme with Mr. Murdstone, for she knew that that would aut matically result in master David's misery. She was right her prophecy. This fatal step she could not check on because of her love and devotion to the mistre of the house and by asking how she could be s cruel and unjust to her so as to deny the ordina comfort and happiness of married life. Still Mrs. Cop erfield had perfect trust in her. When David depart to school Peggotty whispered, "I will take as much ca

of your mother as I took of you. I won't leave her". And, she did that. His mother had died on her 'stupid, cross, old Pegotty's arm.

To David she had been a dream mother in infancy and a fast faithful friend in young age. What a relief she brought to him when she talked secretly and kissed him through the key hole of the door when he was desolate and miserable being locked up in a room by his cruel step-father. Again it was Paggotty who gave him solace and comfort when his mother was dead. She took him to her brother's house, away from the tyranny of the Murdstones and later promised him to visit once a weak throughout her life. David confessed that a great weight was taken off his mind by this promise.

Though she was no scholar she wrote to David from time to time when he was studying at Mr. Creakle and even afterwards. She knew that a loving and faithful heart is better than all the wisdom of the world and so never cared for her limited power of expression and a dozen blots of ink left on a single page. To David these blots were much more expressive than a clean well-written composition.

When we consider her married life the only thing that stands out is that she was happy and contented with Mr. Barkis—an excellent husband as she herself once said. There was not much in Mr. Barkis's house but for this easy and simple good woman it was more than enough. She was always grateful to David who brought Barkis and herself together.

Miss Trotwood.

Miss Betsey Trotwood is one of the best of odd characters of Dickens ranking among Mr. Pickwick and

Mr. Micawber. Though harsh and terrifying in appearance she has a heart quite soft and noble. Irrespective of the opinions of the whole world she has her own way of doing things.

In the very opening chapter of the novel the the reader enjoys a vein of obstinacy in her character. Recognising not even Destiny, whatever she expects must come true. If she expects a grand-neice, it must be the grand-neice the doctor having no business to report otherwise, and if he does that he can easily get the reward—a blow with the bonnet of the discontented fairy. She does not like Peggotty only for her queer outlandish, South Sea Island name though the devotion of the faithful servant later induces her to send David to Yarmouth to have a change for a while.

To David she is a fairy godmother bringing long desired peace and safety after the memorable days of agony and misery at the warehouse. In spite of her many eccentricities he still finds in her something to be honoured and trusted. She is a champion of the poor and the helpless. She rebukes the Murdstones angrily for ill-treating David and giving fatal wounds to his poor mother through the best part of her weakness. Saying 'If I ever see you riding over my green again. I'll knock your bonnet off and tread on it'. She is so ridiculous in her final bolt to Miss Murdstone. So stern from outside she can give the kindest words and best advice. 'Trot', she says, 'never be mean in anything; never be false, never be cruel. Avoid these three vices, Trot....

Rightly or wrongly she decides question's once for all and never goes back on her decisions. But reason and kindness make her repent on certain errors, she

sometimes commits. Does she not confess to David that she could have been a little more considerate to his dead father and mother and that now her only ambition is to see him growing up to be a sensible and happy man ?

Her guiding principle in life is to be rational. She wants both moral as well as physical development. When misfortune overtakes her she observes. 'We must meet reverses boldly, and not allow them to frighten us....... We must learn to act the play out. We must live misfortune down. She knows well that to blame Mr. Wickfield and his daughter is improper for it will make them uneasy. It is no fault of theirs. She is generous too. Mr. Micawber gets a handsome capital from her as a reward for exposing Uriah Heep's villainy and emigrates to Australia.

Virtues such as these mixed with the ridiculous oddities of the lady can win only affection and admiration from the reader.

Agnes Wickfield

Agnes, the good angel of David, and the dear little housekeeper of Mr. Wickfield is a quiet, sweet and unforgetable young girl comforting everybody whoever comes in touch with her. She loves her father above anything else in life. She is always the most efficient helping hand to her father when he is depressed and low. Watching the villainy of Uriah Heep and realising the plight and misery of her father she is prepared to marry even that detestable sccundrel Heep, and entreats David not to hate him as he may ordinarily do for her and her father's sake. She is a worthy daughter of a gentle father.

To David she has been a dear sister of his boyhood and a friend, helper and guide in his later life. Loving him all through her life she takes true interest in all that concerns him. She is a source of inspiration and good resolutions to David and effectively keeps him away from evils and crices. She is a torch bearer to David in the dark and dangerous path of life.

Clara Copperfield

Clara Copperfield, mother of David Copperfield, is one of those weak timid women who must cling for support to some one stronger than themselves. Wanting in strength to stand on her own, she has to look up for support always to Peggotty who is her servant, friend, guide and adviser. Without her she in absolutely helpless.

Her's is one of those gentle natures which are easily tyrannised by those with stronger will than her own. The moment she decides to remarry and the Murdstones arrive her individuality is submerged for ever, and she is not able to show her love for her little Davy. She proves so weak that the ever watchful eyes of the Murdstones make her timid and she finds it quite difficult to assert her will.

The main redeening feature in her character is the great devotion that is capable of. The size of her heart is really marvellous. She loves her Peggotty and has perfect trust in her. She loves her little Davy and her heart grieves for him. She makes the mistake of her life when she marries Mr. Murdstone, and perhaps even realises it, but not one moan or complaint does escape om her lips. She is one of those angles who has that wonderful power of patience, and she is resigned to her

lot. We all the while feel that she is far too good for this wicked world. We suffer, when we see her suffering, and when she dies on the arms of her devoted Peggotty, like a child that has gone to sleep, we experience a great sense of relief.

Questions and Answers.

Q. 1. Give the autobiographical details in "David Copperfield."

Ans. Dickens wrote David Copperfield at the very height of his fame and fortune. Of it he once said of all my books I like this the best. It contains the ideal picture of the child of his fancy and it is in this character that he has worked the autobiographic vein most closely. Every line of this novel is coloured with the hues of memory and a subdued tone of a distant view is given to the whole.

The record of David's life at the warehouse of Murdstone and Grinby has its roots in Dickens's personal experience at Hungerford stairs. It derives its depth from the intensity of his feeling about this darkest period of his life. His father, John Dickens, was a free, generous easy going man and consequently easily fell in debt and soon landed himself in the Marshalsea prison. The family experiences an acute financial stringency. Dickens joins a blacking warehouse at Hungerford stairs at a very low salary. He experiences misery, despair and agony as he toils ceaselessly as a slave. He does realise that he can no more find time for the fulfilment of his passionate desire for education and that the root cause for all this is his own father. Afterwards when the family can afford for his education and he rejoins a better school, he is happy and full of respect for his parents. So, in

this light can be understood the incarnation of dark and cruel Mr. Murdstone; and the kind, sympathetic, eloquent but irresponsible and spendthrift Mr. Micawber; Mr. Micawbers life in King's Bench Prison and the appearance of Miss Betsey and Dr. Strong. David's selling articles in the city road for the Micawbers is Dickens's disposing of the "library" and the family's poor scraps of silver.

His flight from the warehouse is the dream flight that Dickens must often have visioned in such circumstances. There is no variation in Dickens's employment as shorthand writer and Parliamentary reporter and ultimately as an author, as they are chosen for David in David Copperfield.

Again David's love for Dora Spenlow is Dickens's love for Maria Beaduell. The failure of this love and its unhappy results are remarkably coincident in both the cases. There are other minor facts also-like the identification of Salem House with the Wellington Academy where Dickens studied for a short while; and a large number of these facts remain untouched, for to deal with them at all is like constricting a tortured nerve. He can approach those dreadful and secret places in his heart only indirectly and doing even that is but tearing off a hideous and halfhealed scar, resulting in unberable pain.

Q. 2. How was Uriah Heep's fraud detected ?

Ans. The story of how Uriah Heep's fraud was detected is a very interesting one. Mr. Micawber accepts the sacretarial work at his office in Canterbury. He works honestly and sincerely in the beginning till he becomes his confidential clerk. By and by he knows

about the malicious tricks and bad designs of Uriah towards everybody in general and his partner Mr. Wickfield in particular. He notes that Uriah watches Wickfield very closely and finds out his weaknesses and then fosters them to take undue advantage. He wants to make the poor Agnes, his Agnes and seeing that she is very much concerned about her father's welfare, he makes him a mere puppet in his hands. He learns that it is this scoundrel Uriah who made Wickfield believe that the firm is bankrupt and then persuaded him to encroach upon Miss Betsey's investments resulting in her complete ruin. So he cousults Tommy Traddles, the old friend of David, and then prepares a long statement on a piece of paper. He manages the presence of Betsey Trootwood, Trotwood Copperfield and Traddles-the attorney general, in the parlour at Wickfield's place where Uriah Heep is also present. Reading out the statement he exposes his villainy and threatens to take legal action against him by the help of Traddles if the whole amount is not repayed.

Q. 3. How did Barkis court Peggotty ?

Ans. We know of Barkis for the first time when David, after being punished by his step father, is sent away to Salem House. This cartman loves Peggotty for her virtues, his love being quite sincere. When he comes to know that the cake offered to him by David is prepared by Peggotty and that it is she who makes all their pastry and does all their cooking so efficiently, he develops an everlasting love for her. He forms his mouth as if to whistle but does not do it, why ? Because he does not want to make a show of his love.

Further more, when he requests David to deliver

his love message to her it is too vague to de understood without context. The words are 'Barkis is willing'. Even when Peggotty is discharged from service after the death of Mrs. Copperfield and is quite helpless and when Barkis has the best opportunity to win her over, he conveys the love message indirectly through David in very abstract words—'It is all right.' When David stares at him to understand it with a few more words he will not speak in plain language. Hiding an ocean of emotion in his heart entirely surrounded by wisdom and civilised manners he courts Peggotty well and gracefully. After marriage the couple is happy. Barkis is an excellent husband.

Q. 4. Describe David's life at home after his mother's remarriage.

Ans. After his mother's remarriage the dear home of David turned into a hell for him. His first experience of a very cold reception when he returned from Yarmouth with Peggotty proved to be a great shock. He went upstairs into his room and cried in agony till Peggotty and his mother soothed him, but the cruel step-father warned and terrified him against his wild short temper. Every time as he watched the submissive looks of his mother, a frustrating idea that he was left alone in the world grew all the more on him. Miss Murdstone who joined them shortly afterwards was another headache for she usually hated boys.

Even to learn lessons at his mother's desk became a torture after the arrival of the Murdstones. He was afraid of going into the parlour for their very presence would make the boy miserable. Now he could not talk with Peggotty for Mr. Murdstone did not like him to associate with the low. He was severly punished for

nothing and packed off to a school near London. If he came back in the holidays he would like to depart as early as possible for he is too uneasy. His mother being dead there was nobody to look after him. A few days he would pass with Peggotty in Yarmouth and very shortly would be asked to begin life on his own account. This finishes the story of his sad existence with the Murdstones.

Q. 5. Give in outline the reception David Copperfield received at the 'Salem House' and describe the life he led there.

Ans. When David Copperfield was sent to the 'Salem House, it was vacation time. It was a forlorn dreary looking building with bare unfurnished wings. As soon as he reached the place he was received by a bull necked and wooden legged, stout man, the porter. David looked into the school-house which was as dreary as everything else about the place.

At the upper end of the room on a desk he came across a pasteboard placard with the following words written, "Take care of him; he bites". He thought that there may be some dangerous animal beneath the table. But he was told that that placard was meant for him and was to be tied on the back like a knapsack.

The placard on his back was a constant humiliation to young Copperfield. He always felt that some one would be reading it. He dreaded the reopening of the school and the arrival of the boys. Moreover the porter increased his suffering by shouting out to him that he would report whenever he stood with his back to a tree or a wall.

David had led this life of complete isolation for

about one month. One day he heard that the head master Mr. Creakle, had arrived and the same evening he was marshalled before him. Mr. Creakle looked on him severly and told that he was a determined character, and that when he said a thing he expected it to be done.

Tommy Traddles was the first boy to arrive. This was a fortunate circumstance for as soon as the other boys arrived Tommy Traddles showed them the placard saying 'Here is a game'. J. Steerforth a reputed scholor of the school, proved to be very helpful to David and was kind to him. He took a great care of him and did all that he could for him.

David on the very first day got more than his due share of cuts. But poor Tommy Traddles suffered most; sometimes for the offences he did not commit. In fact canings and punishments was a matter of routine. Anyhow David passed his time facing all kinds of difficulties like waning summer, frosty mornings, the dimly lighted and indifferently warmed school room, the bitterly cold morning school room, the same monotonous food consisting of boiled mutton and roast mutton alternately, cracked salates, canings and a dirty atmosphere of ink surrounding all.

Q. 6. Describe David Copperfield's long tramp from London to Dover.

Ans. The misery of the labouring life att he warehouse became more acute for David Copperfield, when the Micawbers left for the country. He determined that the life there was unendurable and resolved to run away. The only person to whom he could go was his aunt Betsey and he decided to try his luck there.

Misfortunes never come alone. His aunt was in Dover. So he reached the coach office but his box and money was snatched away by the cartman. He had now only three half pence in the world and he tramped with a heavy heart to Dover. On the way he pawned his waistcoat at a Pawnbroker's for nine pence and walked out of the shop the richer by that sum and poorer by the waistcoat. He walked the whole day and towards the evening he reached Blackhealth and took his bed that night on a hay-stock. He could never forget that lonely sensation which he felt when for the first time in his life he lay without a roof on his head,

Next day he covered nearly twenty three miles on the straight road. He was tired and worn out. He was terribly afraid of the vicious looking tramps, one of whom deprived him of his silk handkerchief and he longed for a lodging which he knew well that he could not afford. That night he spent under another hay-stock and rose up in the morning very stiff and sore of foot. Once more he took the road and tramped along till he reached the wide downs near Dover. By this time all his money had been spent; he was hungry and worn out and he felt himself utterly miserable.

He enquired about his aunt's house among various people and received various answers. Some were jocous and disrespectful, some refused to reply or mumbled only something. Thus as he set revolvings melancholy thoughts in his mind, on the step of an empty shop, a fly-driver who happened to pass by in his carriage dropped a horse-cloth. The boy immediately took it, handed it up to him. From the fly-driver he knew the address of his aunt. Afterwards he came across a servant of

Miss. Trotwood who conducted him to the little cottage. In this way the long tramp from London to Dover was over.

Q. 7. Give an account of David Copperfield's life at Dr. Strong's school and compare it with 'Salem House'.

Ans. Aunt Trotwood got David Copperfield admitted into a school run by one Dr. Strong. When he was taken into the school room there were about twenty five boys studiously engaged at their books. Dr. Strong introduced the new boy, and at this Adam, who was the head boy of the class stepped forward, welcomed Copperfield, showed him his seat, and presented him to all the masters of the school.

To begin with, his life at the school was rather a difficult matter for the young boy. Having lived for sometime in petty surroundings, and moved among quite common people he felt himself very strange ; a sort of inferiority complex quite overwhelmed him. He has by this time quite forgotten what he had learnt at the 'Salem House' and hence was admitted in the lowest class. He was very awkward in all the games the boys played at the school and extremely backward in his studies.

As days advanced David Copperfield felt himself less strange at the school. In less than a fortnight he was completely at his ease and in course of time he made great progress both in games and also studies.

The school of Dr. Strong was a splendid one and quite unlike 'Salem House' in every respect. At 'Salem House' evey hour had been a positive drudgery. Dr. Strong's school was based on a sound system where the main emphasis was on the honour and good faith of the

boys. Therefore all the boys were warmly attached to the school and felt that they had an important part in the management of the place. They also had an opprtunity of noble games outside the school hours, enjoyed plenty of liberty and Dr. Strong's boys held an excellent reputation in the town. At 'Salem House' the masters were bullies and tyrants and they laid about them without the least compunction. It was a positive pleasure to them to thrash the boys and make them writhe and cry out with pain. Specially the smaller boys were the victims of the torture; often before the end of the hour in the class room the unflagging birch would have landed on the backs of almost all the students in the class. Again the sensitive feelings of the tender boys were not respected at 'Salem House'. The principle followed there was to reform the boys through humiliation and bullying. In Dr. Strong's school the things were different. Boys were treated with courtsey, they were respected, and always the appeal was to their sense of honour and good faith.

Q. 8. Describe how David Copperfield helped his aunt to live her misfortune down.

Ans. After the death of Barkis, when David Copperfield returned to London, it was to his great surprise to find Miss Trotwood and Mr. Dick sitting in his house. After finishing her tea with slow deliberation, Miss Trotwood told her tale. She was completely ruined. Except her cottage and a few belongings that she had with her in the room, everything else was gone. The only thing to be done now was to live her misfortune down instead of allowing it to overwhelm her and cow her. This unexpected news shocked David Copperfield very much and he decided to do his very best to help his aunt in her distress.

David tried whether he could get back his premium from Mr. Spenlow but the latter would not allow it. This gave an another disappointment to David Copperfield. He decided to do something to help his aunt. He had a good deal of time hanging heavily on his hands, and this he could put to good advantage. He learnt from Agnes that Dr. Strong was in need of a good secretary. Therefore he wrote to the Doctor appointing to call on him the next day at ten in the morning. In the morning at the appointed time, Copperfield paid his respects to Dr. Strong in his house. Dr. Strong told him that the remuneration attached to the post was only seventy pounds a year and he would not consider it worth while. But this remuneration was acceptable to David and he took up the job. The secretarial duties kept him fully enagaged. Every day he was up at five o'clock and went to bed only at ten at night.

But this did not satisfy him. He wanted do yet more. He wanted to show his aunt that her goodness had not been wasted. Therefore he set to work with a steady and resolute heart. He was told by Traddles that many people had distinguished themselves by beginning their life as parliamentary reporters and the only thing required for it was a knowledge of short hand which could be mastered in a couple of years by steady persevarance and hard work. So, he decided to devote a part of his spare time to the study of the mysteries of shorthand. He worked with steady persevarance at shorthand and before long attained a fairly good mastery over it. After a short time he got the job of a parliamentry reporter of a morning newspaper and night after night he went to the House of

Commons to take down speeches. He also began to write articles in certain magazines and these were a fairly gocd success. This gave him courage to write more and for the articles, very soon he came to be paid regularly. On the whole he found himself extremely well off and in this way he helped his aunt to live her misfortune down.

Q. 9. Discuss Dickens as a "Propagandist Novelist" wite reference to his novel "David Copperfield."

Ans. By propogandist novelist we mean a novelist who tries to propogate or popularise certain views of his regarding life and humanity. From this point of view it has to be admitted that Dickens is one of the very greatest teachers in the Victorian period, and in this he holds an equal place with Carlyle and Ruskin.

While telling a delightful tale it is also the purpose of Dickens to banish certain hideous blemishes found in the faulty social system of his days. It is Dickens's purpose in his novels to expose some of the evils of society and by making a powerful appeal to the people through the instrument of gentle Satire, remove them.

Two main things that particularly caught the attention of the author in England of the Victorian Age were child labour and cruelty practised in schools. Much of the khowledge concerning child labour given in his books, Dickens had first hand; he himself had been at the age of ten forced by family circumstances to work in a warehouse. It has been pointed out by several admirers of Dickens that little David Copperfield is only an idealised picture of Charles Dickens himself, and that the life depicted is only a picture of his own life. Charles Dickens identified himself with the causes of the poor

people and their daily sufferings were a constant agony to his sensitive soul. Dickens knew from his own experiences what it was to suffer; he knew the hardships of a boy who had to labour in a factory and support himself with the poor pittance. The factory owners in his days were most unsympathetic in their attitude towards the children working under them, there was absolutely no kindness shown to these little souls. The children worked from morning till night, were insufficiently and unsatisfactorily fed, and many good boys, owing to these hard conditions became little robbers and vagabonds. A little kindness shown to them would have done much, but that kindness was never shown.

Some students of Dickens have identified 'Salem House' with the Wellington Academy where Dickens had studied for a time, when he got the opportunity of doing so. During the Victorian Age there were several schools in England which had not emerged out of their old barbarous ways. 'Salem House' where David Copperfield studied, a little over one term, was a typical school of that type. The main emphasis in such institutions had been on a mistaken idea of firmness; firmness which sometimes passed all limits and became sheer cruelty. Boys were bullied and beat with and without reason, often without than with, and no pity whatever was shown to children. In such schools life was a daily drudgery Type of schools like Dr. Strong's where children were treated courteously and kindly and where an appeal to their sense of honour and good faith was made, were very rare at this time in England. A school of the type of Dr. Strong's was a vision in the mind of Charles Dickens; he wanted all the schools to be

like that so that children will not be cruelly ill-treated by the masters anymore.

Dickens had undergone certain unforgetable experiences in the early part of his life. That was the most humiliating phase of his life; it had brought him into close touch with dirt, squlidness and poverty and contributed very much to the development of his personality. The hardships of his youth in later years was a source of inspiration to him and made Dickens turn his work 'into a gospel of humanitarianism.' With Carlyle, Dickens launched into a philanthropic crusade, showed up all the evils of society, and 'prepared those fits of moral compunction from which reforms have sprung.' To sum up 'Dickens has stimulated the national sensibility which was slowly wasting away in the dry atmosphere of utilitarian age; he has re-established balance and a more wholesome order in the proportionate values of the motives of life'. The gospel that Dickens preached was the gospel of active charity and he has contributed a good deal to the weakning of settled selfishness not only in individual but also in nations. Viewed from this angle, Charles Dickens occupies a supreme place in the Idealistic Reaction of the Victorian Era.

Q. 10. What impression of Victorian England do you gather from Charles Dickens's David Copperfield ?

Ans. Dickens in his David Copperfield depicts a picture of England at her very best; a picture of England which he always likes to contemplate. The greater part of Dickens's boyhood was spent at Chatham and Rochester, and we get very frequently in this book references to the scenes of his boyhood. Dickens

considered himself a Kentish man, and the beauties of Kent in all the seasons was treasured up carefully in his mind.

As he does with scenes, so he does with characters also. He selects whatever is very best in characters. He singles out the features of genial humanity and organises them into a whole'. Dickens has a special likeing for the peculiarities in character and a special taste for 'eccentric oddities of Miss Trotwood's type. But Dickens is fully at home only with the lower and lower-middle classes. Their welfare is his immediate concern and the noblest aspiration of his soul. With an expansive heart he understands the joys and sorrows of these people, and by the force of satirical appeal he tries to make others also understand the joys and sorrows of these people. Dickens on the whole places before us quite a lively picture of Victorian England, but it is an England full of faults too, and an England where her children labour away in factories, an England where the educational methods followed are still barbaric, an England where men of Micawber's stamp despite their attainments, cannot keep themselves out of prision. But the only consolation is that side by side with children slaving in factories, boys bullied in schools, and genial souls shut up in prison, we have also our devoted Peggottys and Barkises and other people 'with hearts as gold and true as steel'.

The landscape which Dickens paints with profusion adds to the general effect. The picture of the working class people which Dickens paints is the picture of the working class people in ancient cities and the agricultural districts of the South during the years 1825 or 1830. The picture

that he gives is not of the industrial England of his days, but the agricultural England of the past, and in this instictive preference for the past, Dickens is said to be a reactionary. The customs and habits that he describes are mainly those of the past and therefore savour something of the archaic. The mind of Dickens has not been very much influenced by the epoch of machinery. Railways will never be anything else than a sensational wonder to Dickens; it is by the tinkling of stage coach bells that his imagination is wakened into spontaneous play.

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सारांश

अध्याय १

डैविड कॉपरफील्ड का जन्म शुक्रवार को रात्रि के ठीक १२ बजे सफोल्क में ब्लन्डरस्टन नामक जगह में हुआ था। डैविड के पिता की मृत्यु डैविड के पैदा होने के छः महिने पहले ही हो चुकी थी।

श्रीमती कॉपरफील्ड उस शुक्रवार को गोधूलि के समय अंगीठी के पास बैठी हुई थी। उसकी तन्दुरुस्ती गिरी हुई थी और वह उदास-सी हालत में अपनी दुखदायी हालत पर विचार करने में मग्न थी। पर ज्योंहि उसने अपनी निगाहें ऊपर की, देखा कि एक अपरिचित महिला घर के बाहर वाले बगीचे में से होती हुई चली आ रही है। वह कुमारी ट्रॉटवुड जिसको कुमारी बैटसी भी कहा जाता था, थी। वह श्रीमती कॉपरफील्ड के पति की चाची और अपने सिनकीपन के लिये प्रसिद्ध महिला थी। ज्योंही वह मकान में घुसी उसने सबसे पहला यह प्रश्न किया कि क्या वह श्रीमती कॉपरफील्ड हैं और इस प्रश्न का उत्तर 'हाँ' में प्राप्त होने पर उसने अपना ट्रॉटवुड नाम से परिचय कराया और कहा कि श्रीमती कॉपरफील्ड ने अपने दिवंगत पति से उसके बारे में अवश्य सुना होगा।

कुछ इधर उधर की बातें करने के पश्चात चाची बैटसी ने थकान मिटाने के लिए चाय पीने का इरादा किया। उसने घर की नौकरानी, पैगोटी को इस तरह से बुलाया जैसे वह ही घर की मालकिन हो और उसको चाय बनाने के लिए हुक्म दिया। जब पैगोटी चाय ले आई और अपनी मालकिन श्रीमती कॉपरफील्ड की ओर देखा तो उसने महसूस किया कि उसकी मालकिन वास्तव में बीमार है और इसलिये उसने तुरन्त अपने भतीजे को डाक्टर को बुला लाने के लिये भेज दिया।

थोड़ी ही देर में डाक्टर और नर्स आगईं और ऊपर वाले कमरे में चली गईं। थोड़ी देर बाद डाक्टरनी नीचे आई और कुमारी ट्राटवुड को मुबारकबाद दिया और कहा कि श्रीमती कॉपरफील्ड के पुत्र उत्पन्न हुआ है और उसकी तबियत ठीक है।

अध्याय २

श्रीमती कॉपरफील्ड के पुत्र का नाम डेविड कॉपरफील्ड रखा गया। डेविड के मस्तिष्क पर उसके बचपन में सबसे पहले सुन्दर तथा यौवन-पूर्ण माता तथा लाल मुंह वाली बदसूरत पैंगोटी का प्रभाव पड़ा।

एक रात्रि को, जब कि उसकी माता किसी काम से घर के बाहर गई हुई थी, एकाएक उसके मस्तिष्क में एक विचार उत्पन्न हुआ। उसने पैंगोटी से एक प्रश्न किया कि क्या वह एक सुन्दर स्त्री नहीं है और उसकी शादी हुई है या नहीं। उसके इस प्रश्न के उत्तर में पैंगोटी ने कहा कि न तो वह सुन्दर और यौवनपूर्ण स्त्री है और न ही वह शादीशुदा है। उसी क्षण श्रीमती कॉपरफील्ड बाहर से लौट आई और उसके साथ एक भद्र पुरुष भी था। उस भद्र पुरुष ने डेविड के मकान से लौटने के पहले डेविड से हाथ मिलाने की इच्छा प्रकट की लेकिन डेविड ने हाथ मिलाने के लिए सीधे हाथ की जगह बांया हाथ आगे किया क्योंकि उसको यह बहुत बुरा लगा कि उस भद्र पुरुष नें उसको छूते समय उसकी मां को भी छुआ था।

लगभग दो महिने बाद, एक दिन, पैंगोटी ने डेविड से पूछा कि क्या वह उसके साथ उसके भाई के यहाँ 'यारमाउथ' जाना पसन्द करेगा। पैंगोटी ने उसको यारमाउथ के सम्बन्ध में ऐसी ऐसी बातें बताईं कि डेविड खुद यारमाउथ जाने के लिये लालायित हो उठा। परन्तु यारमाउथ जाने में उसको सबसे बड़ी अड़चन अपनी माता के सम्बन्ध में थी कि वह उनके बिना पन्द्रह दिन तक कैसे काम चलायेगी

और कैसे रहेगी। इस सम्बन्ध में पैगोटी ने उसको बताया कि उनके यारमाउथ जाने के कार्यक्रम के लिए श्रीमती कॉपरफील्ड को कोई एतराज नहीं होगा क्योंकि वह पन्द्रह दिन के लिये अपनी पड़ौसिन श्रीमती गेपर के यहाँ रहने जा रही है। इस पर डैविड को बड़ा सन्तोष हुआ और वह बड़ी चिन्ता और उत्सुकता से उस दिन की प्रतीक्षा करने लगा जब कि वे 'यारमाउथ' के लिए रवाना होंगे। आखिरकार वह दिन आ ही गया लेकिन डैविड कॉपरफील्ड को तनिक-सा भी शक नहीं हुआ कि वह अपने सुखमय घर को हमेशा के लिये छोड़ रहा था।

अध्याय ३

बड़ी कठिन और लम्बी यात्रा के बाद वे लोग 'यारमाउथ' पहुंच गये। डैविड का यहाँ पैंगोटी के घरवालों से परिचय हुआ। डैनियल पैंगोटी, पैंगोटी का भाई था, हैम उसका भतीजा था, तथा छोटी-सी एमीली उसकी बहिन थी। ये सब लोग एक छोटे से किश्ती वाले मकान में रहते थे। सब लोगों की डैविड पर बड़ी विशेष कृपा थी और छोटी सी एमीली उसकी पक्की दोस्त बन गई थी। वे दोनों साथ साथ समुद्र के किनारे घूमा करते थे और सीप, घोंघे, कंकर आदि एकत्रित करते थे। वे एक-दूसरे को अत्यधिक प्रेम करते थे। पन्द्रह दिन बाद पैंगोटी और डैविड कॉपरफील्ड वापिस ब्लन्डर-स्टन लौट आये।

ज्योंही वे लोग मकान पहुंचे उनका स्वागत करने के लिए एक अपरिचित नौकर आया। इस कारण डैविड को बड़ा आश्चर्य हुआ। पैंगोटी ने उसको बताया कि उसकी मां ने नई शादी करली है और उसको अपने नये पिता और मां से जाकर मिलना चाहिये। पैंगोटी आगे आगे और डैविड उसके पीछे पीछे आगे बढ़े और उस कमरे में पहुंचे जहाँ उसकी माँ और उसका पिता श्री मरडस्टन बैठे हुए थे।

डैविड ने श्री मरडस्टन से हाथ मिलाया और एक क्षण बाद अपनी माँ के पास गया। उसकी माँ ने उसको प्यार किया और उसकी पीठ थपथपाई। यह सब बातें श्री मरडस्टन बड़े गौर से देख रह थे। डैविड इस बात को जानता था और इस बात से उसे बड़ा दुख हुआ तथा इस कारण वह खिड़की की तरफ चला गया और बाहर देखने लगा। इस घटना से युवक बालक के लिए समस्त संसार बोझ तथा शून्य बन गया।

अध्याय ४

डैविड के पिता श्री मरडस्टन, एक बहुत ही निर्दयी पुरुष सिद्ध हुये। उसने श्रीमती कॉपरफील्ड के मातृ प्रेम का अपने 'मजबूती' के सिद्धान्त से खून कर दिया। उसकी सीधी-सादी पत्नी का उत्साह बार बार यह कहने पर कि वह अपना प्राकृतिक प्रेम और नम्रता डैविड को प्रदर्शित न करे, पूर्णतया नष्ट हो गया। एक बार श्री मरडस्टन ने डैविड को यह सरल हिदायत दी कि वह होशियारी से काम करे तथा जिद्दीपन छोड़ दे और अगर उसने ऐसा नहीं किया तो वह डैविड को उसी तरह से पीटेगा जैसे कि वह अपने कुत्तों और घोड़ों को अड़ियल होने पर पीटता है।

छः महीने तक डेविड कॉपरफील्ड की शिक्षा का प्रबन्ध घर पर ही रहा। इन दिनों अक्सर चर्चा होती थी कि डैविड को किसी बोर्डिंग हाउस में भेज दिया जाये पर इस सम्बन्ध में कई दिन तक कोई फैसला नहीं हुआ। लेकिन डैविड के लिये अपने नये पिता के कारण कुछ भी पढ़ना मुसीबत था। इसका परिणाम यह निकला कि दिनों दिन वह पढ़ाई में कमजोर और जिद्दी होता गया। एक दिन जब वह कमरे में घुसा तो उसने देखा कि सब लोग बैठे हुए इस बात पर बहस कर रहे हैं कि शारीरिक दंड उचित है या नहीं। वहाँ श्री मरडस्टन

भी बैठे थे और अपनी बैंत के निचले वाले हिस्से में कोई वस्तु लपेट रहे थे । श्री मरडस्टन ने डैविड से कहा कि उस दिन वह अपनी पढ़ाई विशेषकर ध्यान से करे और डैविड को डराने और प्रभावित करने की इच्छा से उन्होंने अपनी बैंत को घुमाया भी । इस घटना से डैविड बिल्कुल अस्त-व्यस्त हो गया और होश भूल गया । यहाँ तक कि वह अपने पाठ की पंक्तियाँ ही नहीं वरन् पृष्ठ के पृष्ठ भूल गया ।

उस दिन पढ़ाई समाप्त हो जाने के बाद वह ऊपर वाले कमरे में ले जाया गया । कमरे में पहुंचने के बाद श्री मरडस्टन ने डैविड कॉपरफील्ड के सिर के बाल पकड़ लिये और बड़ी निर्दयता से उसको बैंत से पीटा । डैविड उग्र और लड़ने को तैयार हो गया । उसने श्री मरडस्टन का वह हाथ पकड़ लिया जिससे वह उसका मुंह पकड़े हुए था और उसको बड़े जोर से काट खाया । अब तो श्री मरडस्टन के गुस्से का कोई ठिकाना ही नहीं रहा और उसने डैविड को इस बुरी तरह से पीटा कि शायद वह उसको मारते मारते मार डालेगा । डैविड जमीन पर गिर गया और श्री मरडस्टन उसको वहीं गिरा छोड़ कमरे के ताला लगाकर चल दिये ।

पाँच दिन तक इस प्रकार डैविड कॉपरफील्ड बन्द रहा । आखिरी दिन पैगोटी ने डैविड को खबर दी कि श्री मरडस्टन आदि ने यह तय किया है कि उसको सैलम हाउस बोर्डिङ्ग स्कूल में भेज दिया जाये । यह बोर्डिंग हाउस ब्लैकहीथ के पास था । उसी दिन से डैविड कॉपरफील्ड के दिल में पैगोटी ने एक विशेष स्थान पैदा कर लिया ।

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अध्याय ५

जब डैविड कॉपरफील्ड गाड़ी में बैठा, सैलम हाउस जा रहा था, उसका गाड़ीवाले श्री बार्किस से परिचय हुआ और उसे मालूम हुआ कि

बार्किस पैगोटी से प्रेम करता है। बार्किस ने डेविड से अपना संदेश कि 'बार्किस तैयार है'। पैगोटी तक पहुंचाने की प्रार्थना की।

सेलम हाउस बिल्कुल उजाड़ जगह में डरावनी इमारत थी। अभी स्कूल में छुट्टियाँ थी। डेविड ने सारे स्कूल को देखा और उसने उसको भी और सब चीजों की तरह ही डरावना और भयानक पाया तथा कमरे के ऊपरवाले किनारे में एक डैस्क पर एक चिपका हुआ प्लेकार्ड देखा जिस पर लिखा था, "उससे होशियार रहो; वह काटता है"। बाद में उसको बताया गया कि वह प्लेकार्ड उसी के लिये है और वह उसकी पीठ पर बांधा जायेगा।

युवक कॉपरफील्ड के लिये उसकी पीठ पर बंधा प्लेकार्ड हर समय बेइज्जती सूचक सिद्ध हुआ। उसको हर वक्त यही महसूस होता था कि कोई उस प्लेकार्ड को पढ़ रहा होगा। इसके अलावा उसको कुछ ही दिन बाद स्कूल फिर से खुलने और नये विद्यार्थी आने के समाचार से बड़ा भय उत्पन्न हो रहा था।

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अध्याय ६

कुछ दिन पश्चात डेविड कॉपरफील्ड ने सुना कि स्कूल के हैडमास्टर साहब श्री क्रीकिल स्कूल में आ गये हैं। उसी दिन शाम को डेविड, हैडमास्टर साहब के सामने पेश किया गया। श्री क्रीकिल ने डेविड से कहा कि वह एक दृढ़ निश्चय वाला व्यक्ति है तथा जब भी वह किसी काम को करने के लिये कहता है, वह काम अवश्य होना चाहिये। दूसरे दिन सुबह स्कूल के पुराने अध्यापक श्री शार्प भी आ गये। लड़कों में सबसे पहले आने वाला टोमी ट्रैडल्स था। टोमी ट्रैडल्स का सबसे पहले आना डेविड के लिये बहुत लाभदायक सिद्ध हुआ क्योंकि जब दूसरे लड़के स्कूल में आये तो उन सबको टोमी ने डेविड के पीछे बंधे

प्लेकार्ड को दिखा कर यह कहा कि वह सिर्फ खेल मात्र है। इस प्रकार उसने डेविड की लाज बचाली।

उस रात को जब डेविड सोने के लिये ऊपर गया तो उसने देखा कि सात शिलिंग की कीमत के सारे केक, बिस्कुट और फल चारों तरफ फैले हुए हैं। इस घटना से वह बड़ा घबड़ाया और विद्यालय के एक पुराने विद्यार्थी स्टीयरफोर्थ से प्रार्थना की कि वह दावत की अध्यक्षता कर उसको अनुग्रहित करें। दावत समाप्न होने के उपरान्त वे सब लोग विद्यालय के अध्यापकों के सम्बन्ध में चर्चा करने लगे और विशेष कर चर्चा का केन्द्र विद्यालय के हैडमास्टर साहब श्री कीकिल ही रहे। श्री कीकिल को कुछ अधिक आता जाता नहीं था सिवाय इसके कि अपने कमरे में पड़े रहना या विद्यार्थियों को बहुत ही निर्दयता से बेंत से पीटना।

विद्यालय का कार्य नियमित रूप से दूसरे दिन प्रारम्भ हुआ। ज्योंही कक्षा में श्री कीकिल ने कदम रखा विद्यार्थियों में सन्नाटा छा गया। डेविड के शुरू दिन ही आवश्यकता से अधिक बेंत पड़े और हैडमास्टर साहब ने उसको विशेषकर नोट किया क्योंकि उन्हें यह खबर दी गई थी कि डेविड काटने के लिए प्रसिद्ध है।

गरीब ट्रैडल्स के रोज बेंत लगते थे। वह अपना सिर डेस्क पर लगा लेता था और अपने आपको बहलाने के लिये अपनी कापियों पर तरह तरह के चित्र बनाया करता था। विद्यालय के हैड मास्टर साहब पर स्टीयरफोर्थ का काफी प्रभाव था। उसने विद्यालय में डेविड की सब प्रकार से रक्षा और मदद की। डेविड भी हमेशा स्टीयरफोर्थ की खूब प्रशंसा किया करता था।

आखिरकार विद्यालय का पहला सूत्र आसानी से समाप्त हो गया और डेविड कॉपरफील्ड घर लौट आया।

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अध्याय ७

डैविड कॉपरफील्ड अपने घर आ गया और ज्योंही उसकी मां ने उसको देखा वह खुशी से चिल्ला उठी और उसको खूब प्रेम किया। डैविड के आने की खबर सुन कर पैगौटी भी शीघ्र रसोईघर से दौड़ती हुई नीचे आ गई और पूरे पन्द्रह मिनिट तक खुशी से पागल सी हो गई।

दूसरे दिन डैविड धड़कते हुये दिल से बैठक में गया। वहाँ श्री मरडस्टन अग्नि के समीप खड़े हुये थे। डैविडने श्री मरडस्टन से अपने पुराने अपराधों के लिये क्षमा मांगी जिसके जवाब में श्री मरडस्टन ने कहा कि वह यह जानकर खुश हुये कि डैविड को अपनी पिछली बातों के लिये पश्चाताप हो रहा है। डैविड को पूरे एक महिने की छुट्टियां थीं। इस खबर से कुमारी मरडस्टन को बड़ी निराशा हुई। लेकिन उसकी निराशा उस रोज समाप्त हो गई जब कि डैविड वापिस विद्यालय के लिए रवाना होने वाला था। डैविड को वापिस जाने के सम्बन्ध में कोई रंज नहीं था। उसने अपनी मां और नये बच्चे को चूमा और उस गाड़ी में बैठ गया जो उसको यारमाउथ ले जानेवाली थी।

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अध्याय ८

डैविड को अपने विद्यालय के दूसरे सूत्र के समय में घटी घटनाओं के सम्बन्ध में अधिक याद न था। धीरे धीरे महिने बीतने लगे और मार्च का महिना और उसका जन्म दिन आ गया।

वह सचमुच में स्मरणीय जन्म दिवस था। सुबह के नाश्ते के लिये श्री क्रीकिल अपनी बैठक में बैठे हुये थे और उन्ही के पास हाथ में एक खुला पत्र लिये हुये श्रीमती क्रीकिल बैठी हुई थीं। श्रीमती क्रीकिल ने डैविड को बुलाया और कहा कि अभी अभी उसको एक पत्र प्राप्त हुआ है। उसकी मां सख्त, बहुत सख्त बीमार थी। डैविड को इस

खबर से सब कुछ मालूम हो गया। वह समझ गया कि उसकी मां का देहान्त हो गया है। वह उस समाचार को सुनकर बहुत जोर से चिल्लाया और रोया और तब तक चिल्लाता रहा जब तक कि उसम चिल्लाने की ताकत ही नहीं रही तथा ऐसा प्रतीत होता था कि उसका छोटा-सा हृदय टुकड़े टुकड़े हो जायेगा।

दूसरे दिन डैविड कॉपरफील्ड अपने घर पहुंच गया। वहाँ पैंगोटी ने उसको अपने तरीके से सब घटनायें सुनाई जो कि पीछे से घटीं थीं।

अध्याय ९

डैविड कॉपरफील्ड की माता को दफन करने के तुरन्त वाद ही कुमारी मरडस्टन ने पैंगोटी को नौकरी समाप्त होने का एक महिने का नोटिस दे दिया। श्री मरडस्टन और कुमारी मरडस्टन का डैविड की ओर वही पहिले जैसा कठोर उदासीनतापूर्ण व्यवहार रहा। एक बार डैविड ने बड़ी हिम्मत करके कुमारी मरडस्टन से पूछा कि उसको अब वापिस कब विद्यालय जाना है परन्तु उसको इस प्रश्न का यह जवाब मिला कि उसको अब कभी भी वापिस नहीं जाना होगा।

पैंगोटी का एक महिने का समय समाप्त हो गया और वह डैविड को अपने साथ यारमाउथ ले गई। यारमाउथ के लिए रवाना होने वाले दिन बार्किस अपनी गाड़ी ले आया और उसमें बैठकर वे अपने गंतव्य स्थान पहुंच गये। यारमाउथ में बाद में बार्किस और पैंगोटी की शादी हो गई।

समुद्र के किनारे कुछ खुशी के दिन बिताकर डैविड फिर वापिस अपने घर आ गया। यहाँ उसके साथ बहुत ही रूखा व्यवहार किया गया जिसके कारण वह बड़ा दुःखी हो गया। इन्हीं दिनों एक दिन श्री क्वीनन जो कि मरडस्टन और ग्रिनबी कम्पनी के मैनेजर थे डैविड के घर आये। यह कम्पनी शराब का व्यापार करती थी तथा यह सुझाव

रखा गया कि डैविड इस कम्पनी में दिन में काम किया करे। यह भी तय हुआ कि डैविड अपने खाने पीने का इन्तजाम स्वयं ही करेगा और उसके रहने और कपड़ों का प्रवन्ध श्री मरडस्टन करेंगे। डैविड यह अच्छी तरह जानता था कि यह सब बातें उससे छुटकारा पाने के लिये की जा रही हैं। उसको इस सम्बन्ध में तनिक भी सोचने और निश्चय करने का अवसर नहीं दिया गया तथा दूसरे दिन सुबह ही उसको श्री क्वीनन के साथ लन्दन के लिए रवाना कर दिया गया।

अध्याय १०

मरडस्टन और ग्रिनबी कम्पनी में डैविड कॉपरफील्ड को बहुत अधिक मेहनत करनी पड़ती थी। उसका काम यह था कि वह शीशियों को देखे, उनको धोये और साफ करे, उनमें काक लगाये तथा तैयार शीशियों पर लैविल चिपका कर बक्सों में बन्द करे। यह सब काम डैविड की उम्र वाले लड़कों के लिए एक तरह से उपयुक्त नहीं था और डैविड काम करते वक्त बहुत आंसू बहाया करता था।

यहाँ डैविड का श्री मिकॉबर से परिचय कराया गया। श्री मिकॉवर कम्पनी के माल के लिये आर्डर लाते थे जिसके लिये उन्हें कमीशन मिलता था। डैविड को इन्हीं के मकान पर रहना था। वास्तव में मिकॉबर खानदान की आर्थिक हालत बड़ी ही चिन्ता जनक थी। हर समय उनका मकान कर्जा मांगने वालों से घिरा रहता था। युवक बालक के लिये भी आर्थिक हालत बड़ी शोचनीय थी। वहुत ही मामूली आमदनी से उसको एक हफ्ते भर तक किसी न किसी प्रकार से काम चलाना पड़ता था।

कुछ ही दिनों में मिकॉवर खानदान की मुसीबतें अपनी चरम सीमा पर पहुंच गई। एक दिन सुबह श्री मिकॉबर गिरफ्तार कर लिये गये और किंग्ज बेंच जेल में डाल दिये गये। पहिले ही रविवार को डैविड

जेल में श्री मिकॉबर से मिलने के लिये गया। मिकॉबर ने उसको कहा कि जीवन में खुश रहने के लिये एक बात यह आवश्यक है कि मनुष्य को अपनी आमदनी के अनुसार ही अपना जीवन व्यतीत करना चाहिये। इस सम्बन्ध में मिकॉबर ने उससे यह भी कहा कि डैविड को उसकी हालत से नसीहत लेनी चाहिये।

अध्याय ११

समय पूरा होने पर मिकॉबर को जेल से छोड़ दिया गया ओर वह अपनी पत्नी के साथ गांव चल दिया। डैविड का अब कोई मित्र नहीं रहा और वह इस वजह से और अधिक परेशान रहने लगा। अब वह यह महसूल करने लगा कि कम्पनी का दुखमय जीवन उसके लिये असहनीय है और इसीलिये उसने वहां से भाग जाने का निश्चय किया। इस संसार में अब वह कहीं जा सकता था तो वह चाची बॅटसी के यहाँ ही जा सकता था। इसलिये उसने बैटसी के यहाँ ही जाने का निश्चय किया। इस काम के लिये डैविड ने पैगोटी से आधी गिनी का कर्जा लिया।

लेकिन डैविड वड़ा अभागा था। उसका सारा सामान और पैसा गाड़ी वाले ने लूट लिया था। इसलिये वह पैदल ही डोवर के लिये रवाना हो गया। यह यात्रा उसने बड़ी कठिनाइयों और तकलीफों को सहते हुये पूरी की।

ज्योंहि डैविड कॉपरफील्ड कुटिया में पहुंचा, बॅटसी उसको पहचान नहीं पाई। लेकिन जब डैविड ने अपना सारा किस्सा और अपना परिचय दिया बैटसी उसको तुरन्त पहचान गई।

अध्याय १२

श्री डिक बैटसी के मित्र और सलाहकार थे। डैविड के सम्बन्ध

में बैटसी ने उसके पिता श्री मरडस्टन को खबर करवादी और जिसकी वजह से श्री मरस्डस्टन दूसरे ही दिन डोवर आ गये। बैटसी, श्री डिक, श्री मरडस्टन और कुमारी मरडस्टन, सबही एक जगह बैठकर डैविड के भविष्य के बारे में किसी निश्चय पर पहुंचता चाहते थे। श्री मरडस्टन ने कहा कि अगर डैविड उसके साथ जाने को तैयार है तो उसको बिना किसी शर्त के जाना होगा और अगर वह उसके साथ नहीं जाना चाहता है तो उसके लिये घर के दरवाजे हमेशा के लिये बन्द हो जायेंगे। सारा मामला डैविड पर ही छोड़ दिया गया कि वह खुद ही अपने लिये फैसला कर ले। डैविड ने बैटसी से प्रार्थना की कि वह उसको अपने यहां से न भेजे। अब इस सम्बन्ध में श्री डिक की राय मांगी गई और उन्हीं की राय से डैविड को नहीं भेजा गया तथा डोवर में ही रखा गया। ट्राटवुड ने भी अब डैविड कॉपरफील्ड को भविष्य में ट्राटवुड कॉपरफील्ड कहने का निश्चय किया।

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अध्याय १३

डैविड बैटसी डैविड की शिक्षा के प्रश्न को नहीं भूली और शीघ्र ही वह उसको किसी अच्छी स्कूल में भर्ती कराने के लिये कैन्टरबरी ले गई। कैन्टरबरी पहुंचने पर वे लोग सबसे पहले श्री विकफील्ड के मकान पर गये। श्री विकफील्ड एक वकील थे और बैटसी के सारे झगड़े निपटाये करते थे। वहाँ उनकी उरियाहीप से भी मुलाकात हुई। डैविड की शिक्षा के प्रबंध के बारे में बैटसी और श्री विकफील्ड ने बातें की और इसके बाद वे दोनों बाहर चले गये और काफी देर बाद वापिस लौटे। डैविड के लिए बहुत ही अच्छा स्कूल ढूंढने में वे सफल रहे परन्तु बैटसी बोर्डिंग हाउस के सम्बन्ध में अभी पूर्णतया सन्तुष्ट नहीं हुई थी।

श्री विकफील्ड ने यह सुझाव रखा कि डैविड कॉपरफील्ड उन्हीं के

यहां रहें। उनका यह प्रस्ताव स्वीकार कर लिया गया। अब श्री विकफील्ड ने उनको अपनी छोटी सी पुत्री एगनिस से परिचय करवाया। इसके बाद बैटसी वापिस डोवर लौट गई और श्री विकफील्ड से डैविड के सम्बन्ध में सब प्रकार का इन्तजाम करने के लिए प्रार्थना कर गई। अब डैविड कॉपरफील्ड कैन्टरबरी में रहने लगा।

अध्याय १४

दूसरे ही दिन सुबह डैविड कॉपरफील्ड एक विद्यालय में भर्ती करवा दिया गया। यह विद्यालय डा. स्ट्रोंग द्वारा चलाया जाता था। डैविड ने 'सेलम हाउस' में जो कुछ भी पढ़ा था, वह सब भूल गया था और इसी कारण वह पहली कक्षा में भर्ती किया गया। वह खेल और पढ़ाई दोनों में ही दूसरे विद्यार्थियों के मुकाबिले में बहुत ही पीछे था। घर लौटने पर एगनिस ने उससे पूछा कि उसको विद्यालय कैसा लगा। डैविड ने जवाब दिया कि शुरू में तो उसको बड़ा अजीब सा लगा। पर यह तो निश्चित था कि डैविड को वह विद्यालय बहुत पसन्द आया।

ज्यों ज्यों दिन बीतते गये डैविड अपनी स्कूल से त्यों त्यों घनिष्ट होता गया। लगभग पन्द्रह दिन में ही वह अपने आपको आराम में महसूस करने लगा तथा कुछ ही दिनों में पढ़ाई और खेल दोनों में ही अत्यधिक उन्नति की। डाक्टर स्ट्रोंग की स्कूल बहुत ही आलीशान और बड़ी थी तथा वह सैलम हाउस से हर तरह से भिन्न और अच्छी थी।

अध्याय १५

डैविड कॉपरफील्ड का पैगोटी से पत्रों द्वारा बराबर सम्बन्ध रहा और वे एक दूसरे के बारे में इस प्रकार से पूर्ण जानकारी में रहे। पैगोटी से ही डैविड को मालूम हुआ कि उनका ब्लन्डरस्टोन वाला घर

मरडस्टन परिवार ने हमेशा के लिए छोड़ दिया है । वह मकान अब या तो किसी और को किराये पर दे दिया जायेगा या बेच दिया जायेगा ।

एक बार युरिया हीप के निमंत्रण पर डैविड उसके घर पर चाय पान करने गया । वहाँ डैविड की श्री मिकॉबर से भी आकस्मिक मुलाकात हुई । पहले की तरह ही श्री मिकॉबर अब भी आर्थिक कठिनाइयों से परेशान थे । और उनको अपने युवक मित्र को अपनी सारी परेशानियाँ सुनाने से अत्यधिक सन्तोष प्राप्त हुआ ।

अध्याय १६

कुछ ही वर्षों में डैविड कॉपरफील्ड ने डाक्टर स्ट्रोंग की स्कूल में अपनी शिक्षा समाप्त कर ली। उसको स्कूल छोड़ते हुए बहुत दुःख हुआ परन्तु अपने उज्जवल भविष्य की आशा में वह अपनी मित्र एगनिस तथा स्कूल को छोड़ने के लिये विवश था ।

डैविड कॉपरफील्ड से बैट्सी हमेशा यही पूछती रहती थी कि वह क्या बनना चाहता है और वह किस प्रकार का व्यवसाय करना पसन्द करेगा । लेकिन डैविड के लिये इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ निश्चय करना बड़ा मुश्किल था । इसलिये बैटसी ने डैविड के सामने यह सुझाव रखा कि वह कुछ दिन की छुट्टी लेकर लन्दन चला जाये और वहाँ कुछ दिन रह कर बचपन से परिचित दृश्यों को देख आये और घूम आये तथा इसके बाद कुछ दिन पैगोटी के यहाँ रह आये ।

सबसे पहले डैविड कैन्टरबरी गया और उसने एगनिस और श्री विकफील्ड से मुलाकात की और बड़े ही अफसोस के साथ उनसे विदा ली । डैविड को एगनिस की जुदाई से बहुत दुख हुआ क्योंकि वह हमेशा उसकी बायाँ हाथ रही थी । बहुत ही सुबह डैविड अपने मि

मित्रों को छोड़कर लन्दन के लिये रवाना हो गया और वहाँ कुछ दिन व्यतीत किये। वहाँ से वह यारमाउथ के लिये रवाना हो गया।

अध्याय १७

अपनी पुरानी नर्स पैंगोटी के मकान पर पहुंचने पर डैविड ने दरवाजा खटखटाया। परन्तु पैंगोटी शुरू में उसको पहचान न सकी। डैविड उसको देखकर मुस्कराया पर इसके जवाब में पैंगोटी बिल्कुल भी नहीं मुस्कराई और यह जवाब दिया कि श्री बार्किस अन्दर घर में हैं। लेकिन जब पैंगोटी ने डैविड कॉपरफील्ड को पहचान लिया तो फिर वे एक दूसरे के खूब गले लगे, खूब हँसे और खूब शोर किया। पैंगोटी के पति श्री बार्किस इस समय गठिया की बीमारी के कारण खाट पर पड़े हुये थे। कॉपरफील्ड उससे ऊपर वाले कमरे में मिलने को गया और उसको नमस्कार किया। बार्किस को डैविड से मिलकर बहुत खुशी हुई क्योंकि यह वही डैविड था जिसको वह कई बार अपनी गाड़ी में ब्लन्डरस्टन की सड़कों पर ले गया था। बार्किस ने बड़े उत्साह और प्रेम के साथ डैविड कॉपरफील्ड का स्वागत किया।

डैविड पैंगोटी के यहाँ पन्द्रह दिन तक रहा। वह घर के बाहर कभी भी अधिक नहीं रहा, और खासकर रात के समय, क्योंकि वह महसूस करता था कि घर से अधिक बाहर रहना पैंगोटी के लिये बाधापूर्ण होगा क्योंकि उसको अपने पति की सेवा-सुश्रुआ को ओर अधिक ध्यान देना पड़ता था।

अध्याय १८

एक दिन डैविड कॉपरफील्ड को बैट्सी का एक पत्र मिला। इस पत्र में उससे यह पूछा गया था कि वह "प्रोक्टर" बनना पसन्द करेगा। बैटसी इस समय लन्दन आ चुकी थी। डैविड ने लन्दन

जाने की तैयारी की और रास्ते भर इस मामले पर विचार करता रहा और अन्त में "प्रोक्टर" बनने का निश्चय कर लिया। लन्दन पहुंचने पर डैविड का बैट्सी ने बड़ी खुशी के साथ स्वागत किया और डैविड ने "प्रोक्टर बनने की मंजूरी दे दी।

दूसरे दिन सुबह वे दोनों ही स्पैनलो और जोरकिन्स वकीलों के के यहाँ गये। वहाँ श्री डैविड कॉपरफील्ड का श्री स्पैनलो से परिचय कराया गया। डैविड ने उससे कहा कि उसको वह व्यवसाय पसन्द है परन्तु इस बात में उसका अभी पूरा विश्वास नहीं है इसलिये उसको इस व्यवसाय को समझने और देखने का का मौका देना चाहिये, इसलिये काम के लिए उसको एक महीने का समय मिलना चाहिये। श्री स्पैनलो को इस बात पर कोई आपत्ति नहीं थी।

आखिरकार सब बातें तय हो गईं। डैविड और बैटसी दोनों ही अडेल्फी में बंकिघम स्ट्रीट में आ गये और श्रीमती क्रुप का मकान एक महीने के लिये किराये पर ले लिया।

अध्याय १९

एक दिन डैविड को एगनिस का एक रुक्का मिला जिसमें लिखा था कि वह लन्दन आई हुई है और वह अपने पिता के एजेन्ट श्री वाटरब्रुक के यहाँ ठहरी हुई है। उसने डैविड से उसी दिन डैविड की सहूलियत अनुसार निश्चित किये समय पर मिलने की इच्छा जाहिर की थी। इसके जवाब में डैविड ने एगनिस को यह लिख दिया कि वह उसी शाम को चार बजे मिलने आयेगा।

एगनिस बैठक में बैठी हुई बुनाई कर रही थी और यहीं डैविड आकर उससे निश्चित समय पर आकर मिला। डैविड एगनिस को देखकर इतना भावुक हो गया कि उसके खुशी के मारे आँसू निकल पड़े। एगनिस इस समय अपनी मुसीबतों के कारण परेशान थी।

बहुत दिनों से वह यह जान रही थी कि युरिया हीप ने उसके पिता को एकदम काबू में कर रखा है और उनको उसने दबाव डालकर अपना साझीदार बनाने के लिए मजबूर किया है। अभी युरिया हीप भी लन्दन आया हुआ था। लेकिन एगनिस ने डेविड कॉपरफील्ड को यही सलाह दी कि वह चुप रहे और युरिया हीप से दोस्ती बनाये रखे। बाद में युरिया हीप नें भी डेविड से यह कहा कि वह श्री कॉपरफील्ड का साझीदार बन गया है। युरिया हीप बाद में डेविड के घर भी गया और उससे प्रार्थना की कि वह बिना जाने बूझे एगनिस को उसके खिलाफ न करे।

अध्याय २०

कई दिन और सप्ताह बीत गये तथा डेविड मैसर्स स्पैनलो और जोरकिन्स के यहाँ टिक गया। दो महीने बाद श्री स्पैनलो ने डेविड को अपने घर पर निमन्त्रित किया और वहाँ उसका डोरा से परिचय कराया गया। डोरा श्री स्पैनलो की सुपुत्री थी। एक ही क्षण में सब काम पूरा हो गया। डोरा पर डेविड मुग्ध हो गया और वह प्रेम बन्धन में कैद हो गया। वह डोरा को बहुत अधिक प्यार करने लगा।

श्रीमती क्रुप बड़ी समझदार औरत थी। डेविड और डोरा का प्रेम हुए अभी कुछ ही सप्ताह बीते थे कि डोरा से प्रेम के सम्बन्ध में वह सब कुछ जान गई। उसने डेविड को सलाह दी कि डोरा से प्रेम के सम्बन्ध में निराश होने की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है।

अध्याय २१

एक दिन डेविड कॉपरफील्ड अपने पुराने स्कूल के साथी ट्रैडल्स से मिलने को गया। ट्रैडल्स अब एक वकील था। श्री और श्रीमती

मिकॉबर भी उसी मकान में रहते थे जिसमें कि ट्रैडल्स रहता था। वहाँ डैविड की उनसे मुलाकात हुई। मिकॉबर परिवार ने डेविड को खाने पर निमन्त्रित किया पर वह उनकी आर्थिक कठिनाइयों से अच्छी तरह परिचित था इसीलिये कुछ बहाने करके वहाँ खाना खाने नहीं गया और घर लौट आया।

उसी दिन डैविड का एक दूसरा पुराना दोस्त, स्टीयरफोर्थ, उससे घर पर मिलने आया। स्टीयरफोर्थ ने डैविड को बताया कि वह यारमाउथ गया था और पैंगोटी ने यह सन्देश भेजा है कि श्री बार्किस बहुत अधिक बीमार हैं। यह समाचार सुनकर डैविड बहुत चिन्तित हुआ और उसने यारमाउथ जाने का निश्चय किया।

अध्याय २२

पैंगोटी ने डेविड को अपने यहाँ इस मुसीबत के समय आने के कारण बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया अदा किया। डैविड के आजाने से पैंगोटी को कुछ तकलीफें कम मालूम होने लगी। उसने पैंगोटी को हिम्मत दिलाई। पैंगोटी ने डैविड को बताया कि श्री बार्किस हमेशा से उसको प्रेम करते आये हैं और बेहोश होने के पहले भी उन्होंने कई बार उसके बारे में पूछा था।

बार्किस बीमारी के कारण बेहोश हो गया था और कभी-कभी बेहोशी की हालत में बहकता भी था। परन्तु मृत्यु से पहले वह बिल्कुल होश में आ गया और उसने डैविड कॉपरफील्ड को पहचान लिया और धीरे से मुस्कराते हुए कहा कि 'बार्किस तैयार है।' इस बातचीत के थोड़ी देर बाद ही श्री बार्किस इस असार संसार से से सदा-सदा के लिए उठ गये।

अध्याय २३

श्री बार्किस का वसीयतनामा एक सन्दूक में पड़े चमड़े के थैले में नीचे रखा हुआ मिला। अपने जीवन भर में वह अपनी कमाई में से वह हमेशा कुछ बचाकर इकट्ठा करता रहा था और उसकी कुल बचत लगभग तीन हजार पौंड थी। इसमें से उसने एक हजार पौंड का ब्याज श्री पैगोटी के लिये उसकी जिन्दगी भर के वास्ते छोड़ दिया। उसकी मृत्यु के बाद सारा मूलधन पैगोटी, एमीली और डैविड में बराबर बराबर बांट दिया जाना था।

बाद में हैम ने उनको खबर दी कि एमीली स्टीयरफोर्थ के साथ भाग गई है और उन लोगों के लिये एक खत लिखकर छोड़ गई है। इस खबर ने श्री पैगोटी और डैविड कॉपरफील्ड को एक दूसरा बड़ा सदमा पहुंचाया।

अध्याय २४

दूसरे दिन सुबह नाश्ते से पहले डैविड कॉपरफील्ड ने पैगोटी, उसकी बहन और हैम को समुद्र के किनारे घूमता पाया। वे लोग काफी थके हुए और परेशान थे और उनकी शकल से डैविड कॉपरफील्ड ने यह समझ लिया कि वे लोग रात भर नहीं सोये हैं। श्री पैगोटी ने कहा कि वह अपनी एमीली को ढूढ़ने के लिये जा रहे हैं। श्री पैगोटी उसी रात को एमीली को ढूढ़ने घर से चल पड़े।

अध्याय २५

डैविड को यारमाउथ से लौटने के तीन दिन बाद मालूम हुआ कि डोरा लन्दन आई हुई है और अपनी सहेली कुमारी मिल्स के यहाँ ठहरी हुई है। कुमारी मिल्स इस समय अपने पिता के साथ

लन्दन में ठहरी हुई थी। इसलिए डैविड ने डोरा से मिलने का निश्चय किया और वह उसको बता देना चाहता था कि वह उससे प्यार करता है तथा इस सम्बन्ध में वह अपनी किस्मत का आखिरी फैसला सुनना चाहता था।

डैविड मिल्स के मकान पर जाकर डोरा से मिला और उसने अपना प्रस्ताव उसके सामने रखा। लेकिन डोरा ने इस बात पर जोर दिया कि उन दोनों की शादी उसके पिता की मंजूरी के बिना नहीं हो सकती है।

एक रोज तीसरे पहर डैविड कॉपरफील्ड को अपने यहाँ बैटसी और श्री डिक को आया देख बड़ा आश्चर्य हुआ। बैटसी और श्री डैविड कॉपरफील्ड खूब जोरों से मिले और श्री डिक ने डैविड से हाथ मिलाया। चाय पीने के बाद बैटसी ने धीमी आवाज से अपनी सारी राम कहानी सुनाई। वह पूर्णतया बर्बाद हो चुकी थी। उसके पास अब सिर्फ एक मकान और पाँच वस्तुयें जो अभी उसके साथ ही थी रही थीं और बाकी का सब कुछ उसका चला गया था। अब सिर्फ इस बात के अलावा उसके पास और कोई चारा नहीं था कि वह अभाग्य को अपने ऊपर हावी न होने दे और मुसीबतों का हिम्मत रख कर सामना करे।

अध्याय २६

बैट्रसी से डेविड इस प्रकार के बुरे समाचार सुनकर बड़ा दुखी हुआ। उसने इस बात का प्रयत्न किया कि उसे श्री स्पैनलो के यहाँ "प्रोक्टर" बनने के लिये जमा कराई गई रकम वापिस मिल जाये। परन्तु उसको इस बात में कोई सफलता नहीं मिली। रास्ते में उसकी एगनिस से मुलाकात हुई। वह अपनी चाची के यहाँ जा रही थी। वह अपने पिता श्री विकफील्ड और युरिया हीप जो नगर

में किसी व्यवसायिक काम से आये थे, के साथ आई थी। युरिया इस समय उसके पिता का साझीदार बन चुका था।

बैटसी ने एगनिस के आगमन का बहुत स्वागत किया। उसने उसको अपनी वर्तमान हालत के सम्बन्ध में राय लेने के लिये खत लिखा था। डैविड कॉपरफ़ील्ड ने कहा कि वर्तमान परिस्थितियों में उसके लिये केवल यही उचित है कि वह कोई काम करे। उसके पास काफी समय फालतू था इसलिये इस समय का कोई काम करके सदुपयोग करे जिससे कुछ आमदनी हो। एगनिस ने डैविड कॉपरफील्ड का यह बुद्धिमतापूर्ण निश्चय सुनकर कहा कि डैविड को सैक्रेटरी बनने का काम पसंद हो तो ऐसी एकजगह खाली है क्योंकि उसने डा० स्ट्रोंग को अपने पिता से यह कहते सुना था कि उन्हें एक सैक्रेटरी की आवश्यकता है और इस काम के लिये कोई उपयुक्त व्यक्ति बतलाये। डैविड कॉपरफील्ड यह सुझाव सुनकर बहुत प्रसन्न हुआ और उसने उसी वक्त डाक्टर स्ट्रोंग को एक खत लिखा।

अध्याय २७

दो दिन बाद डैविड कॉपरफील्ड को दो खत मिले। एक खत मिकॉबर का था और दूसरा डा० स्ट्रोंग का। मिकॉबर ने अपने खत में लिखा था कि उसको युरिया हीप के यहाँ सेक्रेटरी बनने की नौकरी मिल गई थी। डाक्टर स्ट्रोंग ने अपने बड़े ही दयापूर्ण पत्र में लिखा कि उसके लिये इससे अधिक और अच्छा नहीं हो सकता कि वह डैविड को अपना सेक्रेटरी नियुक्त करे। लेकिन डाक्टर उसको बहुत ही कम वेतन दे सकता था। इसलिये डेविड ने इस मामले में अपने पुराने मित्र ट्रेडल्स से सलाह करने का निश्चय किया।

ट्रैडल्स ने डैविड की सब बातें सुनकर कहा कि उसके लिये संकेत लिपि का ज्ञान आवश्यक है और उसका सीखना और उस पर

पूर्ण अधिकार प्राप्त करना कठिन कार्य भी है। लेकिन डेविड ने संकेत लिपि सीखने और उस पर पूर्ण अधिकार पाने का निश्चय किया। उसने ट्रैडल्स से विदा ली और सीधा डोरा से मिलने के लिये मिल्स के मकान पर गया। उसने वहाँ डोरा को अपनी मुसीबतें बताईं।

एक दिन शनिवार को सुबह वह जब सदा की भांति कचहरी गया तो उसको मालूम हुआ कि स्पैनलो की मृत्यु हो गई है। इस समाचार को सुनकर उसको बड़ा आश्चर्य हुआ और उसको बड़ा सदमा पहुंचा। उसको यह मालूम हुआ कि डोरा का अब इस संसार में सिवाय दो चाचियों के और नहीं है। अपने पिता के अन्तिम संस्कार समाप्त होने पर डोरा उनके साथ चली गई।

अध्याय २८

एक दिन डोवर से लौटते समय डेविड कैन्टरबरी रुक गया। यहाँ उसकी विकफील्ड के मकान पर मिकॉबर से भेंट हुई। डेविड ने मिकॉबर में कुछ परिवर्तन महसूस किया और यह अन्दाजा लगाया कि वह कुछ परेशान था और उसको अपना नया काम पसन्द नहीं था।

डेविड कॉपरफील्ड ऊपर कमरे में गया। वहां एगनिस ने उसका बहुत खुश होकर स्वागत किया। डेविड की डोरा के साथ शादी के सम्बन्ध में एगनिस ने यह राय दी कि डेविड को डोरा की चाचियों को लिखना चाहिए।

खाना समाप्त होने पर युरिया ने डेविड के आने की खुशी में सुरापान करने का प्रस्ताव रक्खा। सुरापान का पहला दौर समाप्त होने के बाद युरिया ने फिर यह प्रस्ताव रखा कि एगनिस स्त्री जाति की देवी होने के कारण उसकी तन्दुरुस्ती के लिये सुरापान का एक दूसरा दौर और शुरू किया जाये। इस पर कुछ क्षण के लिये

विकफील्ड पागल-सा हो गया। डैविड कॉपरफील्ड इस चीज को समझ गया और धीरे-धीरे विकफील्ड को शान्त करने में सफल हो गया। श्री विकफील्ड युरिया की तरफ आये और कहने लगे कि उसी की वजह से वह अपनी इज्जत और नाम खो बैठा है, अपनी शांति और घर खो बैठा है। जब यह सब बातें अपनी चरम सीमा पर पहुंच गई उस समय एगनिस कमरे में आई और अपने पिता को कमरे से बाहर ले गई।

दूसरे दिन सुबह डैविड कॉपरफील्ड ने लन्दन जाने की तैयारी की। लन्दन के लिए गाड़ी रवाना होने के कुछ क्षण पहिले युरिया हीप डेविड के पास आया और कहने लगा कि उसने विकफील्ड से हुए झगड़े को संभाल लिया है और अब सारा मामला शांत हो गया है। वह इतना बेवकूफ था कि वह पकने से पहले ही फल तोड़ना चाहता था।

अध्याय २९

लन्दन लौटने पर डविड ने डोरा की चाचियों को खत लिखा। जवाब में उन्होंने लिखा कि वे डैविड का उनके यहाँ आने जाने के लिये कुछ शर्तों पर रजामंद हैं। वह शनिबार को खाली चाय के समय आ सकता था और रविवार को केवल खाने के समय। डैविड को यह शर्तें मंजूर थी और वह अब उनके यहाँ आने जाने लगा। लगभग एक साल बाद उन्हें बाहर घूमने की अनुमति भी मिल गई।

धीरे-धीरे समय बीतता गया और इस समय डैविड कॉपरफील्ड की लगभग २१ वर्ष की उम्र थी। उसने इस समय तक संकेत लिपि पर पूर्ण अधिकार प्राप्त कर लिया था और अब वह एक अख़बार के लिए पार्लियामेंट के समाचारों का संवाददाता बन गया था। अब वह लेखक भी बन गया था। इस सम्बन्ध में शुरुआत करने के लिये उसने विभिन्न

मेगजीनों में कुछ लेख भी लिखे थे। उनमें उसको अच्छी सफलता प्राप्त हुई थी। उसको अपने लेखों के बदले में बराबर समय पर पारिश्रमिक भी मिलता था। इस प्रकार वह इस समय पूर्ण सम्पन्न अवस्था में था।

डैविड अब लन्दन से हाई गेट में एक सुन्दर छोटी सी कुटिया में चला गया था। बात यह थी कि उसकी डोरा के साथ शादी होने वाली थी। पैगोटी भी इस मौके पर कुटिया में आ गई और शादी की तैयारियाँ बड़े जोर-शोर से होने लगी। ट्रैडल्स शादी के लियें आवश्यक इजाजत ले आया और डोरा और डैविड की शादी हो गई।

अध्याय ३०

सुहाग रात बीत जाने पर डैविड को बड़ा आश्चर्य सा लग रहा था। उसको डोरा को अपने घर हमेशा पाकर बहुत ही अचम्भा होता था। उनके मेरी एन नामक एक नौकरानी थी। वह बड़ी बुजुर्ग और ईमानदार नौकरानी थी पर उसको कभी-कभी फिट आते थे। उसी की वजह से पति और पत्नी में सबसे पहले झगड़ा हुआ क्योंकि वह समय का कोई खयाल नहीं रखती थी।

डैविड डोरा को अपना जैसा बनाना चाहता था पर उसको यह असम्भव प्रतीत हुआ। उसके पास इसलिये एक यही उपाय था कि डोरा की तरह बन जाये और उसने ऐसा ही करने का निश्चय किया। इस निश्चय से उसकी शादी का दूसरा वर्ष पहले वर्ष से अधिक सुख में बीता। लेकिन डोरा बीमार रहने लगी और उसका बहुत अधिक समय नीचे बैठक में सोफे पर पड़े रहने में ही बीतता था

अध्याय ३१

एक दिन श्री पैगोटी डैविड के मकान पर आये। पैगोटी ने उससे

अपने साथ गोल्डन स्क्वायर चलने को कहा। रास्ते में डैविड को मालूम हुआ कि श्री पैगोटी अपनी भतीजी और स्टीयरफोर्थ को खोजने में सफल हो गये थे। वे अभी लन्दन में ठहरे हुए थे। अपने निश्चित स्थान पर पहुंच ने पर वे सीढ़ियों पर चढ़ सबसे ऊपर वाली मंजिल में पहुंच गये और एक कमरे, जिसके कि दरवाजे बन्द थे, के सामने जाकर खड़े हो गये। श्री पैगोटी ने कमरे का दरवाजा खोला और अन्दर घुस गये। ज्योंही उसकी भतीजी ने जो कि अन्दर बैठी थी, अपने चाचा को देखा, डर कर जोर से चिल्लाई और बेहोश हो गई। श्री पैगोटी उसको अपनी गोद में उठाकर अपने यहाँ ले आये।

दूसरे दिन बहुत सुबह श्री पैगौटी डैविड की कुटिया में गये और बैंट्रसी से मिले। उसने बैंट्रसी को सारा किस्सा कह सुनाया। श्री पैगौटी ने अब अपनी भतीजी और श्रीमती गमिज के साथ आस्ट्रेलिया जाकर वहीं बस जाने का निश्चय कर लिया था।

अध्याय ३२

लगभग दो सप्ताह बाद डैविड कापरफील्ड को श्री मिकाबर का एक खत मिला। वह बैंटसी, ट्रेडल्स और डैविड से युरिया हीप की सब पोल खोलने के लिये कैन्टरबरी के एक होटल में मिलना चाहता था। इस मामले को बहुत आवश्यक समझ वे सब मिकॉबर से मिलने के लिये रवाना हो गये।

श्री मिकॉवर उन सबको श्री विकफील्ड के मकान पर ले गया। वहाँ युरिया हीप भी मौजूद था।

उन लोगों का वहाँ अचानक पहुंचने के कारण युरिया हीप को बड़ा आश्चर्य हुआ। श्री मिकॉबर ने एक लम्बा कागज निकाला और उसको जोर से पढ़ा। मिकॉबर के बयान से मालूम हुआ कि पिछले कई व-र्षों से युरिया हीप श्री विकफील्ड की कमजोरियों का नाजाइज फायदा

उठा रहा था। उसने श्री विकफील्ड को यह बताया कि उनकी फर्म दिवालिया हो गई है और कर्जा चुकाने के लिए बैटसी के १२०० पौंड जमा रकम को खर्च करने के लिये उनको तैयार कर लिया था। वास्तव में उनकी फर्म कभी नुकसान में नहीं थी और यह सारा धन युरिया हीप ने हड़प कर लिया था।

युरिया हीप ने बहुत प्रयत्न किया कि वह मिकॉबर के हाथ से कागज छीन ले पर वह इस काम में सफल नहीं हो सका। अब ट्रैडल्स ने युरिया से कहा कि वह सारा धन शीघ्र लौटा दे जो कि उसने जालसाजी से लिया था। शुरू में तो ऐसा मालूम हुआ कि युरिया सारी रकम लौटाने के लिये मना कर देगा पर बाद में उसने सबकी सब लौटा दी।

अध्याय ३३

जहाज रवाना होने से पहले डैविड पैगोटी से मिलने यारमाउथ गया। रास्ते में सारे दिन बहुत जोर की हवा चलती रही। जैसे-जैसे रात चढ़ने लगी आसमान में चारों तरफ बादल छा गये और हवा पहले से भी और अधिक तेज चलने लगी। सुबह होने पर भी हवा बहुत तेज चलती रही। वह इप्सविच बहुत देर में पहुंचा और वहाँ बाजार में लोग बागों का समूह खड़ा देखा। वे लोग रात को अपने बिस्तरे छोड़कर घर की चिमनियों के गिर जाने के डर से बाहर आ गये थे।

दूसरे दिन भी तूफान चलता रहा और उसको यह खबर दी गई की एक जहाज टूट गया है। वह समुद्र के किनारे गया और वहाँ अन-गिनत आदमियों को जहाज के टूटने को देखते हुये खड़ा पाया। लोग बाग बुरी तरह चिल्ला रहे थे। इस समय हैम ने जहाज पर खडे आदमियों को बचाने का निश्चय किया। उसने अपने बदन के चारों ओर रस्सा बाँध लिया और इस रस्से को कई ताकतवर आदमियों

ने पकड़ लिया था। वह जहाज के पास पहुँचा ही था कि अभाग्यवश पानी का एक बहुत बड़ा पहाड़ जहाज पर गिरा और जहाज पानी में डूब गया। हेमको समुद्र के बाहर खेंच लिया गया पर उसकी भी मृत्यु हो चुकी थी।

अध्याय ३४

डैविड लौट आया और अपनी कुटिया में डोरा के साथ रहने लगा। डोरा इस समय बीमार थी। डोरा ने एगनिस से मिलने की इच्छा प्रकट की और डैविड से इस सम्बन्ध में उसको पत्र लिखने के लिये प्रार्थना की। पत्र पाते ही एगनिस वहाँ आ गई। डोरा बहुत बीमार थी और हरेक का यही विचार था कि अब वह नहीं बचेगी।

डोरा ने डैविड से प्रार्थना की कि वह उसको एगनिस से अकेले में बात करने की अनुमति दे। डोरा की इच्छानुसार एगनिस उससे अकेले में मिली और जब वह वापिस डैविड के पास लौट कर आई तो वह बहुत ही उदास थी और रो रही थी। उसने बताया कि डोरा मर चुकी है। इस खबर को सुनकर डैविड की आँखों के सामने अंधेरी छा गई और वह कुछ समय के लिये सब कुछ भूल गया।

अध्याय ३५

डोरा के अन्तिम संस्कार के दो दिन बाद डैविड को विदेश जाने वालों को विदा करने के लिये ग्रेवसैन्ड जाना था। वह वहाँ पैगोटी के साथ गया।

उनको श्री पैगोटी जहाज के डैक पर मिले और वह उनको नीचे ले आये। वहाँ उनको श्री मिकाँबर ने अभिवादन किया और श्रीमती गमिज को भी मौजूद पाया।

डोरा की मृत्यु ने डैविड को अशान्त बना दिया था। लगभग

एक साल बीत गया। उसने स्वीजर लैंड की एक घाटी में रहने का निश्चय किया। वहाँ उसने सुबह जल्दी उठकर ओर रात को देर से सोकर, मेहनत और शान्ति से काम किया। उसने एक कहानी लिखी जिससे उसको बहुत ख्याति प्राप्त हुई। कुछ आराम करने के बाद उसने एक दूसरा उपन्यास लिखना प्रारम्भ किया। वह अभी आधा भी नहीं लिखा गया था कि उसने घर लौटने का निश्चय किया। इस प्रकार वह तीन वर्ष बाद अपने घर लौट आया।

अध्याय ३६

डैविड को आये दो महिने से अधिक बीत चुके थे। वह एगनिस से अक्सर मिल लिया करता था। एक दिन जब वह एगनिस से मिलने के लिये कैन्टरबरी जाने वाला था, बैटसी ने उससे कहा कि बहुत ही शीघ्र एगनिस की शादी होने वाली है। उसने यह निश्चय किया कि वह एगनिस से इस शादी की खबर की सच्चाई के बारे में पूछेगा। उसको एगनिस भी अकेली ही मिली।

एगनिस ने डैविड का मुस्कराहट तथा बड़ी नम्रतापूर्वक प्रेम से स्वागत किया। डैविड नें एगनिस को अपनी भुजाओं से पकड़ लिया। वह उसको बहुत प्यारी थी। बहुत ही धड़कते दिल से उसने एगनिस के सामने यह कहा कि वह उससे प्रेम करता है और एगनिस ने खुशी के मारे रोते हुये कहा कि वह डैविड को हमेशा से प्रेम करती आई है।

उन दोनों की पन्द्रह दिन में ही शादी हो गई। यह शादी बिना धूम-धाम के हुई। इस मौके पर ट्रेडल्स, डाक्टर स्ट्रोंग और श्रीमती स्ट्रोंग ही मेहमान रूप में उपस्थित थ।

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